Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-92-022
Monday
3 February 1992

Daily Report
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FBIS-NES-92-022 3 February 1992

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Israel

Shamir reportedly has accepted U.S. conditions linking the granting of loan guarantees to the cessation of settlement construction after homes already started are built, according to DAVAR, which added that Zalman Shoval, ambassador to Washington, has been instructed to seek an increase in the number of houses that will be allowed to be completed. Shoval termed "inaccurate" an earlier report on a compromise plan regarding the conditions as proposed by Secretary of State Baker, HA'ARETZ disclosed. The prime minister, meanwhile, rejected "political enslavement" as a condition for the guarantees, Jerusalem radio reported. Elsewhere, unidentified "senior government officials," noting the problems in tracing every investment in the territories, said the United States "will have difficulty overseeing the (settlement) situation, and we will profit from it," YEDI'OT AHARONOT disclosed. Media reported on the upcoming struggle over whether Arens or Levi would occupy the second spot on the Likud list for elections to the Knesset. Arens told Tel Aviv radio that, in contrast to the last elections, he would not defer to Levi, a statement the foreign minister termed "ridiculous and sensational," Jerusalem television reported. Asked by a LE FIGARO correspondent about France's detention of George Habash, Shamir said the "misunderstanding" was "not an important problem. Let us leave it at that."

Algeria

The Higher State Council chairman may soon replace Prime Minister Ghozali in a government reshuffle, according to an "analysis" published by AL-WATAN and reported by Algiers radio. Speaking in Switzerland, Ghozali denied that he is about to resign, according to the radio, which also reported on arrests of Islamic Salvation Front officials and imams who were said to have incited people against the state. The foreign minister's three-point plan to restore order—consisting of presidential elections, a referendum on amendments to the constitution, and "the restoration of the democratic process in the right direction"—were published in the Italian daily CORRIERE DELLA SERA and reported by the radio.

Palestinian Affairs

PFLP leader Habash departed France, Radio Monte Carlo reported, while a PFLP spokesman cited by the radio spoke of a "rift" in French-Palestinian relations. The "artificial fuss" surrounding the incident led to Habash's not being treated for his condition, a PFLP official told Algiers radio; the spokesman also saw a "clear U.S. signal" in the affair. Habash later told Radio Monte Carlo that his health "is no cause for concern." A statement issued by five Palestinian factions urged that members of the delegation to peace talks not be attacked, either physically or verbally, AL-DUSTUR disclosed.

Iraq

An armed clash reportedly started by a dispute over government policy broke out among Republican Guard personnel near the Presidential Palace, according to the clandestine Voice of the People of Kurdistan, which later reported additional details of a special force set up to protect Saddam.

Libya

The State Department's annual human rights report contains statements that are "false" and that constitute "interference in the internal affairs" of the country, according to an External Liaison Bureau statement transmitted by JANA.

Syria

A protest was lodged against Germany's seizure of tanks bound for the country, Damascus radio reported. The two countries intend to resolve the question as soon as possible, the radio added.

A TISHRIN editorial "vehemently criticized" Arab participants in the Moscow multilaterals, SANA reported, while an AL-THAWRAH commentary reported by the agency saw an "astonishing paradox" in holding the talks before securing Israeli concessions.

Iran

Speaking on the anniversary of the country's revolution, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said Tehran will build up the country's defensive might without sacrificing political independence, IRNA reported. Tehran radio and television broadcast speeches by Khamene'i and Ahmad Khomeyni on the occasion.

Pakistan

Reacting to remarks by the ambassador-designate to Washington, a Foreign Office spokesman said the country will not establish diplomatic relations with Israel, THE NEWS reported, quoting the spokesman as saying that "We have no communication with Israel whatsoever." Denying that the Afghan president has proposed direct talks, a Foreign Office spokesman said that even had such a proposal been made, Islamabad "would have avoided direct talks at this stage" in deference to the "more serious" international talks currently being held, the paper continued.

Arab-Israeli Talks

Faysal al-Husayni on Nonparticipation in Moscow

PM3101111192 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 29 Jan 92 pp 1, 4

[Interview with Faysal al-Husayni, head of the Palestinian delegation to the Moscow talks, by Ruba al-Husari in Moscow; date not given]

[Text] [Al-Husari] You came to Moscow but did not attend the opening session of the multilateral negotiations. Are you satisfied with the outcome?

[Al-Husayni] Despite our absence from the conference hall, our presence was very clear. Our presence dominated the entire atmosphere. We came here with a positive spirit and a genuine desire to attend this conference and also to know its final dimensions. But at the same time we were not prepared to turn the option that occurred in Madrid into a condition governing the entire peace process. We have once again proved that while we cannot impose a solution, we are capable of obstructing any solution that transcends our rights. That is, we have become a superpower within the Moscow conference framework.

[Al-Husari] On what basis did the Palestinians come to Moscow?

[Al-Husayni] We came to Moscow on the basis that the letter of invitation and the letter containing assurances emphasized that it is the Palestinians alone who determine their delegation and that no other party can choose the Palestinian delegation. We regard what was said in Moscow, namely that Palestinian participation is governed by the Madrid formula, as a violation of the foundation on which the conference was established. This is why we composed the delegation the way we wanted, and not as a result of circumstances or conditions imposed on us. Yes, we composed our delegation in such a manner that Israel would not withdraw from the bilateral talks. And if in the bilateral talks Israel managed to impose an opinion to the effect that it would withdraw if it encountered Palestinians from Jerusalem or outside [the occupied territories]—and these are bilateral talks involving us and Israel alone—perhaps that was a justification for me to try to compose my delegation in a manner that would not give Israel the opportunity to withdraw. But with regard to a multilateral conference attended by 33 states represented by their foreign ministers—who either sat with us or are willing to sit with us and who all believe that we are entitled to be here—Israel's objection and everyone's submission to that opinion are unacceptable, not only to us but also to those who have attended the conference.

[Al-Husari] The United States did not in principle oppose the inclusion of Jerusalem and diaspora Palestinians in the various committees later. How do you explain the contradiction in its objection to their inclusion in the Moscow sessions?

[Al-Husayni] Until now the U.S. position has been and still is to try to act on the basis that the Palestinians gain from the convening of the conference and lose by not attending, and that thus the Palestinians have to accept what is offered to them with some improvements here and there. But the reality is that what was valid and acceptable in Madrid cannot become the rule and an obligation everywhere.

We cannot continue with one particular action; this is because of our knowledge of the consequences that can result from behaving in a certain manner without having available the benefits guaranteed from such an action.

In my view, the process is not based on sound logic. It is based on appeasing Israel, and that appeasement is not based on a convincing logic; thus from time to time we find a contradiction in positions—between what should be and what, on the other hand, would be bound to appease Israel.

[Al-Husari] How might your absence from the Moscow talks affect the bilateral talks?

[Al-Husayni] From the outset we have said that we do not agree to the convening of the multilateral conference except after progress in the bilateral talks. We were told that there is no link between progress here and progress there. As they believe there is no link between the two, then we should continue on this basis.

[Al-Husari] In the past, Palestinians have expressed their fear of an attempt by America to retaliate against the Palestinians' absence in Moscow by not supporting them in the bilateral talks. Does that fear still stand?

[Al-Husayni] It is clear that the Moscow conference is attended by 33 states, and the speeches delivered by these states' representatives show that if the participants are asked who is responsible for what has happened in Moscow, without any doubt the blame will not be put on the Palestinians. This, because we are willing to participate in these talks at any stage and at any time provided that the conditions imposed on us in order to restrict us as soon as we attend the opening session are removed.

Palestinian Affairs

More on 'Detention' of PFLP's Habash in Paris

France 'Responsible' for Habash

NC3101165692 Paris AFP in English 1602 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Excerpts] Damascus, Jan 31 (AFP) - The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) on Friday warned it would hold France responsible for the life of its leader George Habash and called for his departure from a Parisian hospital where he is being held.

"The French Government will be held responsible in case of a deterioration in the health of Mr. Habash as a

result of undertakings by the French police," PFLP deputy secretary general Abu-'Ali Mustapha said in an interview here with AFP. [passage omitted covered in referent item]

PFLP officials said in a separate statement released here that Habash's detention under police guard in a Parisian hospital "proves that this affair has taken dangerous dimensions."

"The French Government is responsible for his life," the statement said.

"We strongly regret attempts by certain French circles to politicize this issue under pressure from Zionists in Israel and in France in order to undermine Franco-Arab relations and safeguard their own interests," the statement added.

Jerusalem News Conference

LD3101190892 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Excerpts] A news conference has been held at the al-Watani Hotel in Jerusalem attended by a number of foreign television and media representatives, and international, Palestinian, and Israeli newspaper and magazine reporters. Dr. Riyad al-Maliki, brother Radwan Abu-'Ayyash, and others made speeches calling upon the French Government to provide the necessary medical treatment for Palestinian leader George Habash and to give him legal and security protection until he recovers.

Speakers at the news conference thanked the French Government and President Francois Mitterrand for their hospitality in receiving Dr. Habash for treatment in Paris hospitals. They also expressed gratitude for the firm stand of the French Government on the Palestinian issue and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

Dozens of Palestinian officials met at the al-Watani Hotel shortly before noon to discuss the recent developments in the French political crisis following Dr. Habash's admission to a Paris hospital for treatment. [passage omitted]

The official French stand has given rise to surprise and astonishment in various Palestinian and European quarters.

Territories Figures React

NC3101202592 London MBC Television in Arabic 1800 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Report by correspondent Mahir Shalabi from Jerusalem on interviews with Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj and pro-PFLP figure Dr. Riyad al-Maliki—recorded]

[Text] [Shalabi] The occupied territories' inhabitants have expressed anger over and denounced the French authorities' order to detain Dr. George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], the second-largest Palestinian organization, for 72 hours to interrogate him about the PFLP's responsibility for various military operations.

[Frayj] We call on President Mitterrand to respect the right of a sick man being treated in a hospital. There is no justification for this clamor being made under Israeli pressure and it will harm all Palestinians wherever they are.

[Shalabi] A large number of Palestinian figures and citizens visited the French consulate in Jerusalem and presented a strongly worded message protesting the French Government's decision and demanding it rescind this measure, which would affect the good relations between the French and Palestinian peoples.

[Unidentified Palestinian] The Palestinians in the occupied territories are very angry with the French behavior toward a Palestinian leader, Dr. George Habash. We handed a message today to the French general consul. We also sent a message to the UN secretary general and a number of messages to the Red Cross. We will meet with the Western countries' consuls to convey to them our dismay with these actions that are not worthy of the friendship between Palestinians and the French people.

[Shalabi] At a news conference held by a number of Palestinian figures, they denounced this step and demanded France rescind its decision immediately. The sharpest reaction came from Dr. Riyad al- Maliki, who is close to the PFLP, when he said: We give the French Government 24 hours to rescind its decision to detain Dr. Habash for 72 hours.

[Al-Malki] We certainly will continue to exert pressure on the French Government. We will continue to meet with French officials here in Jerusalem. I believe we will assess the situation after 24 hours, that is tomorrow. If the situation concerning Dr. Habash does not improve, then the Palestinian people, its leaders, establishments, and influential figures in the occupied territories must take the necessary steps to express everyone's anger and indignation.

French Consul Handed Memorandum

LD3101214892 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Excerpts] The various Palestinian people's groups, bodies and institutions, inside the occupied territories have announced through their marches and popular memoranda their vehement protest against the stance of some quarters in the French Government for their opposition to receiving Dr. George Habash, the secretary general of the People's Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and called for the stoppage of all the measures taken against him.

The representatives of the Palestinian national bodies, institutions and personalities have expressed their protest to the French consul in occupied Jerusalem and handed him an urgent memorandum. They hailed at the

same time the French stand which comes in support of our people's rights and its legitimate and just struggle for freedom and independence.

Several Palestinian personalities met this afternoon with the French general consul in Jerusalem and the French consul in East Jerusalem. They handed them a protest memo signed by dozens of national personalities and bodies in various political frameworks and leanings in the Palestinian occupied territories. The memo protests those in the French Government who have opposed France's reception of Brother George Habash, whose health is in critical condition and who needs medical treatment at Henri Dunant Hospital in Paris.

The memo says: The sons of the Palestinian people highly praise the French stand in support of the Palestinian right and its legitimate struggle for freedom and independence, especially French President Francois Mitterrand, the members of his government and the French Red Cross for its humanitarian stand. The memo calls for the provision of necessary treatment for Dr. George Habash, and ensuring the best conditions for the success of this treatment. It rejected any restrictions on his personal freedom and called for securing his safety and security on the French soil and his right of movement at the end of his treatment. [passage omitted].

The march reached the premises of the French consulate and a protest memorandum was handed over to the French consul against the arrest of George Habash and his interrogation while he is still at Henri Dunant Hospital in Paris.

AFP: Habash To Leave for Jordan

NC0102100992 Paris AFP in English 0940 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Text] Paris, Feb 1 (AFP) - Radical Palestinian leader George Habash is to leave a Paris hospital on Saturday for Amman, the Jordanian capital, a PLO official said. The official from the Palestine Liberation Organisation mission in Paris told AFP that Habash, whose presence in France created a political storm because of his past involvement in terrorism, would be flown at 1.00 p.m. (1200 GMT) to Amman to join his family.

Informed sources said earlier that Habash would be expelled to Algeria.

Ibrahim al-Sus, PLO envoy in France, and three other PLO representatives Saturday went to the Paris hospital where Habash had been under detention. The visit was the second by al-Sus to Habash, the leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP].

Despite pressure for Habash to be questioned in connection with terrorist activities in France, the sources said four doctors who examined the PFLP chief had pronounced him unfit to be questioned by a magistrate. The doctors said he had concussion. Habash is being treated at the Red Cross-run Henri-Dunant hospital in a western Paris hospital under heavy police protection.

Habash, 65, was flown to France from Tunis by the Red Cross on Wednesday after reportedly suffering a stroke. However his wife Helda on Friday said her husband "did not suffer a stroke" and was in good health.

Three senior French officials were dismissed for allowing Habash to enter France without authorisation from President Francois Mitterrand or Foreign Minister Roland Dumas, both of whom were out of the country.

A fourth, Red Cross President Georgina Dufoix, resigned amid the outcry.

'Source'—Habash Headed for Algeria

JN0102174192 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Randah Habib dispatch from Amman]

[Text] An informed Palestinian source has stressed to our radio that George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], left Paris for Algeria this afternoon; there had been doubts as to where he was heading. The source said that Dr. Habash's health does not allow him to make a long trip, and this is why he left for Algiers instead of Amman or Damascus. The source stressed that Dr. Habash and his entourage boarded a special plane amid high secrecy about its destination, except for a statement by a PLO official in France that Dr. Habash would leave for Amman.

Palestinian ambassador to Jordan al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim has cited Jordanian officials as welcoming Dr. Habash to Amman if he decided to go there. Our radio has learned that the Jordanian officials were informed this evening that the PFLP leader left for Algiers.

Habash Leaving for 'Arab Capital'

JN0102133392 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1210 GMT 1 Feb 92

['Abdallah al-Dardari dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] has confirmed that Dr. George Habash has left France for an Arab capital and that he is in good health and enjoys high morale.

In a message to the Palestinian people, PFLP Assistant Secretary General Abu-'Ali Mustafa said that what recently took place in France has caused a rift in Palestinian-French relations since some influential French quarters, supported by Zionism, have succeeded in transforming a humanitarian issue into a legal case.

Abu-'Ali Mustafa accused the French Government of violating official agreements concluded with the PLO with regard to Dr. Habash's treatment. He added that French rightwing forces have exploited this issue for domestic election purposes while French President Francois Mitterrand's government has ignored Dr. George

Habash's importance as a struggler whose name is linked to the history of Palestinian national struggle.

PLO 'Relieved' at Outcome

NC0102112992 Paris AFP in English 1102 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Text] Tunis, Feb 1 (AFP) - The PLO, reacting Saturday to reports from its Paris representatives that France would allow radical leader George Habash to leave for Jordan, said it was relieved about the outcome of the diplomatic row. "We express our relief and our esteem for this highest-level French decision to end this prefabricated crisis," the Palestine Liberation Organization's official spokesman Ahmed Abderrahman told AFP here.

A well-informed source in Paris announced Friday that Habash, the leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine who has been in a Paris hospital since Wednesday, would be allowed to leave France Saturday.

Habash, who masterminded airplane hijackings and airport killings, is to leave the Jordanian capital Amman at the request of PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, according to a PLO representative in Paris, Bougila Samy. He said that Habash was "in quite good health", but he was "somewhat tired and has difficulty in speaking." Habash reportedly suffered a stroke, but his wife later denied this.

In the Israeli-occupied territories, meanwhile, Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij said he was hoping for an honorable solution to the crisis. "The best solution is to allow George Habash to fly safely" out of France said Freij, who has participated in Middle East peace talks and who earlier denounced France's decision to put Habash under police guard at a French Red Cross hospital. "Whatever happens we consider France as a friend and supporter, and especially the president and the foreign minister," he added. "We regret this misunderstanding and thank the French Red Cross. We would like an honourable end to this tragic situation."

Israeli authorities gave no reaction Saturday before an official decision from Paris. Officials said earlier that they would consider requesting Habash's extradition to Israel, but judicial sources said such a move would be complicated.

PFLP Member on 'Artificial Fuss'

LD0102144492 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Interview with Jamil Majdalawi, Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine Political Bureau member, by unidentified correspondent on 1 February; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] Jamil Majdalawi, good morning.

[Majdalawi] Good morning.

[Correspondent] The first question about what they call the George Habash affair: How did the affair end?

[Majdalawi] The affair ended with the French authorities retreating from the artificial fuss that accompanied Dr. George Habash's arrival in France by allowing Dr. George Habash to leave France in whatever direction he wishes after we informed the French officially—and after Dr. George Habash also informed them of this—that we no longer desire their treatment after they proved that they could not bear the consequences of even a humanitarian situation of this type.

[Correspondent] Does this mean that Dr. Habash did not receive treatment in France?

[Majdalawi] You could say that he did not receive any treatment; on the contrary, this artificial fuss has resulted in increased tension and increased human, psychological, and political suffering, on top of the suffering from the illness from which our comrade, Dr. George Habash, was suffering. This exposes the fallacy of the colonialist civilization's claims, irrespective of the colors these claims take.

[Correspondent] The fact is that Dr. George Habash arrived with the highest French authorities' approval, but the reaction from French authorities and media has been inhumane. Was this expected before the George Habash's departure?

[Majdalawi] This issue took us by surprise and was the cause for our censure and condemnation at the same time, because Dr. George Habash went to France in accordance with the rules, regulations, and laws observed in this case. Therefore, there was no justification for such a fuss. If anyone lost in this matter, we believe it was the French official authorities since they proved their inability to shoulder the responsibility for such a decision. The fingers of others are long in France and can move French public opinion in general directions much more than the authorities expected. In my estimation, this is a warning bell for the French themselves and not for any other party.

[Correspondent] Does this mean that there were other, non-French parties behind this affair?

[Majdalawi] There are the fascist, rightist, and racist quarters in France, and there are quarters known for their connection with the Zionist movement and their attempts at negative influence. Naturally, there is, I believe, a clear U.S. signal in such a move. There is an attempt to silence any independent inclinations in France and other places away from this wide U.S. hegemony.

[Correspondent] How do you explain the link between the George Habash affair, his arrival in France, and preparations for French elections? Are these matters linked?

[Majdalawi] It was not on our mind, and we did not try to make it an internal French issue. We wanted our comrade to receive treatment in France. As to the internal French reactions, as I said, they are a warning

bell for the French themselves and not for any other side. I believe it is the duty of the progressive forces, the dynamic, humanitarian, and good forces in France, to benefit very well from this lesson so as to know where to tread and to confront these French fascist inclinations and the U.S. and Zionist sabotage in France, itself.

Habash Arrives in Tunis, Met by 'Arafat

NC0102180792 Paris AFP in English 1759 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Text] Tunis, Feb 1 (AFP) - Radical Palestinian leader George Habash arrived here Saturday from Paris and was greeted at Tunis- Carthage airport by Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, reliable Palestinian sources said.

He left Paris earlier aboard an Algerian plane chartered by the PLO after three days in the French capital where his admission for medical treatment sparked a governmental crisis.

An eyewitness at the Tunis-Carthage airport said Habash walked with a cane and was helped down the plane by two people.

[PLO Chairman Yasir] 'Arafat embraced the PFLP chief and they chatted in the VIP lounge before leaving in a convoy towards PLO headquarters here.

Habash Visited France 'Several Times'

LD0202103892 Paris France-Inter Radio Network in French 2000 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Excerpt] According to a Tunisian newspaper, George Habash, who has been in Tunis since yesterday, has visited France for medical treatment several times. According to the newspaper, which does not give details of the number and dates of these visits, the leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine is reported to have visited France under an assumed name. [passage omitted]

PLO's al-Sus Denies Report

LD0202134292 Paris France-Inter Radio Network in French 1300 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] The Habash affair: Ibrahim al-Sus, the PLO representative in France, is convinced that there has been a certain manipulation in this matter and that it is largely a French affair. Al-Sus stated this a while ago on TF-1. He also denied a report in a Tunisian newspaper this morning that George Habash has already made several trips to France for treatment, under a false name. This is not true, al-Sus asserted, and declared that he has never seen Habash on French soil.

'French Rightist Team' Denounced

JN0202161892 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1500 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] In a statement issued in Damascus, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] denounced what it called the Zionist-oriented French rightist team, and saluted the humanitarian stand of the senior French officials who were dismissed following the transfer to a Paris hospital of PFLP Secretary General George Habash.

The statement said [words indistinct] France to portray itself as a state defending human rights and forcing it to contravene the most basic human, moral, and political values. The statement added: We consider the senior officials who have suffered because of their noble, humanitarian stand, to be genuine representatives of the French people's heritage, nobility, and values.

[At 1600 GMT on 2 February, Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic reports the following: "Abu-Ahmad Fua'ad, PFLP Political Bureau member, denied in Tunis today that Secretary General George Habash has visited France several times in the past."]

Habash: Health 'No Cause for Concern'

JN0202183392 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Earlier today, Dr. George Habash [leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine—PFLP] contacted our radio to assert that the condition of his health is no cause for concern. His wife said that during his stay at a Paris hospital, Habash could not undergo the medical tests for which he had been transferred to Paris. On the contrary, his wife added, he was subjected to pressure from police during his stay. She said that the political campaign against her husband's presence for treatment was launched by Zionist and pro-Zionist elements.

The above charges were repeated today in a PFLP statement released in Damascus denouncing the Zionist-oriented rightist team in France, and saluting the stand taken by senior French officials who were dismissed because of their noble and humanitarian stand, which represents the heritage, nobility, and values of the French people.

In the occupied territory, a pro-PFLP figure, Riyad al-Maliki, said that the Palestinians' disappointment is comparable in its size to the great affection France had been enjoying in the West Bank and Gaza. He said that this wound will not heal until the French Government apologizes to the Palestinian people, and Dr. George Habash in particular, because of the treatment meted out to him, especially his billing by some French officials as a terrorist.

The Habash controversy united Palestinians with different positions in the occupied territories, including those who

oppose the PFLP line, such as Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj, who led a delegation of Palestinian figures of various trends to the French consulate in Jerusalem to demand that George Habash not be pursued.

'Ashrawi—Palestinians To Continue Peace Talks

JN0102150592 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1350 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Text] Amman, 1 Feb (WAKH)—Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi, official spokesperson for the Palestinian delegation to the Middle East peace talks, has declared that the Palestinian delegation will continue bilateral negotiations with Israel.

She said the next round of negotiations will likely be convened in Washington on 10 February.

Israel and both cosponsors of the conference, the United States and Russia, have expressed no objection to the date proposed by the Palestinians during the previous round, she indicated.

Mrs. 'Ashrawi told a news conference in Amman this morning that the settlement issue is key to any progress in the Middle East peace process.

The United States has promised to facilitate the Palestinian delegation's participation in the committees that will break down from the conference so that Palestinians on these committees will come from inside and outside the occupied territory, she said.

Notes Issue of Working Groups

JN0102205492 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 2000 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Statement by Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi, spokeswoman for the Palestinian delegation to the Middle East peace talks, at a news conference in Amman on 1 February—recorded]

[Text] Well, Secretary Baker announced publicly that one which deals with refugee issues and the other one, which deals with economic development. [sentence as heard] When we discussed these issues with Secretary Baker, he said he mentioned these two as examples; that the Palestinians can participate in which other committees they see as relevant or important. We were also told that Palestinian participation can be comprehensive, and that it is a Palestinian choice. So we are going to present a list of participants and a list of the committees that we want to participate in, and the basis of participation will be a comprehensive Palestinian participation from inside and outside the occupied territories. I think that the American and the cosponsor's position is quite clear on this issue—that they will accept participation of Palestinians from outside the occupied territories, and the participation will not be restricted to only one or two working groups.

'Ashrawi Comments on Participation in Moscow Talks

JN3101190492 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Statement by Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi, official spokeswoman for the Palestinian delegation to the Moscow multilateral talks, in Amman on 31 January—recorded]

[Text] We refused to enter the conference hall in any other form than a united delegation representing the entire Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories. We sent a letter containing the names of the Palestinian delegation's members, but we received a reply allowing for only three people from the occupied territories to participate in the conference. We refused to divide the people and the delegation.

On the second day, we were told that we could attend the working teams' meetings. We told them that we were ready to participate in the work of all the working teams. We also demanded the creation of two more working teams, one on Jerusalem and the other on human rights, but only as a united people who have national rights. It is we who have the right to decide who is Palestinian and how the Palestinians should be represented. No one else has that right. When this recommendation was rejected, we refused to attend.

We then held intensive meetings with the sponsors, the participating states, and the Arab states, and there was a consensus that the Palestinian position was firm, principled, and based on self-respect, and that our national rights and national principles should be preserved. There was a positive response from the sponsors that we could participate in the work of the working teams on an equal basis and as one people.

'Constant Coordination' With Jordan

JN0102195092 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Text] Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi, spokeswoman for the Palestinian delegation to the peace conference, has stressed that there is full coordination with Jordan throughout the peace process. She was speaking to a news conference in Amman today:

[Begin 'Ashrawi recording] As you know, Israel tried during the first round of bilateral talks in Washington to divide, marginalize, change, and distort Palestinian representation and participation. It tried to turn the issue into an item on the agenda, into a subcommittee, or into a question of a minority in Israel. But Israel failed, and we forced it to deal with a people that have representation, rights, and a national identity. The bilateral talks, consequently, opened on an equal basis, and direct Palestinian negotiations were held with the Israelis on an equal footing.

In Moscow, there was yet another attempt to divide our people. They wanted to speak to only one-third of the Palestinian people and to turn the issue into merely a

humanitarian question, ignoring its national and political dimensions and reducing us to a human subcommittee or working group. We told the sponsors what we had been telling them from the beginning—namely, that we will participate on equal footing. In the letter of assurances, there is a point stating that the Palestinians have the right to choose their own representatives without veto from any other party. Another point in the letter says that the Palestinians have the right to participate with a delegation on an equal basis, and to be dealt with equally. A third point stipulates that if we accept to go to Madrid, for instance—to the bilaterals—in some form of representation, this will neither be viewed as a precedent nor have any negative impact on any subsequent talks. Palestinian participation in the multilaterals has its own unique characteristics—the issue of representation, legitimacy, and sovereignty—and Jordanian participation has somewhat different characteristics. Our participation or nonparticipation, therefore, should not affect Palestinian-Jordanian relations, which have always been based on constant coordination, mutual respect, and equality. These are long-term relations and interests, not temporary ones. [end recording]

Faysal al-Husayni on Prospects for Future Talks

NC3101201092 London MBC Television in Arabic 1800 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Interview with Palestinian leader Faysal al-Husayni by unidentified correspondent; place, date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Al-Husayni] Israel tried to make the Madrid formula a binding condition applicable to all the stages of the peace process. On our part, we went to remove this condition and this formula. I believe that we succeeded in making good progress. The statements made by all the conferees, with the exception of Israel, and the statements by the conference cosponsors confirm that the Madrid formula is not viable anymore and that the Palestinians from outside [the occupied territories] must be present at the multilateral talks.

[Correspondent] In light of these stands, how do you see the future of the negotiations?

[Al-Husayni] I believe that there are committees that will meet. There is a guidance committee. It is clear that the Palestinians will be presented in the committees within the framework of this new formula, that is, there will be Palestinians from inside and outside [the occupied territories] in these committees.

[Correspondent] What is your assessment of the other Arab participation in the conference?

[Al-Husayni] The overall outcome of the Moscow talks, whether the results of the efforts made by those who attended the conference or of the clear stands taken by those who did not attend, enables us to say that it puts us at the start of the right course. There must be high-level coordination to continue along this right course. This coordination must deal with the current circumstances. Arab coordination now is extremely necessary and we must start it. We see no reason why coordination should not start and should not be at the required level.

[Correspondent] Will the Palestinians return to the next round of talks?

[Al-Husayni] If the Madrid formula will be imposed again, then there will be no Palestinian presence or participation in the conference. But if the cosponsors are true to their word, break with the formula, and expand the Palestinian participation to include Palestinians from inside and outside the territories, then we can go to Washington.

'Arafat Addresses 'Important Message' to Palestinians

LD0102210592 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 1 Feb 92

["Important Message" issued by Yasir 'Arafat, president of the State of Palestine, on 1 February, addressed to the Palestinian people inside the occupied territories on the occasion of the Isra', the Prophet's spiritual journey to heaven—read by announcer]

[Excerpts] The brother president said to the sons of our people:

We have traversed great distances along the road to Palestine. He affirmed that the struggle will continue and the uprising will continue to merge with the struggle of our mujahidin heroes and the blood of the beloved martyrs until victory. Here is the full text of the message. [passage omitted quoting a verse from the Koran on the spiritual flight to heaven]

On this blessed occasion, the anniversary of the Isra' is a day of rememberence, my people and beloved ones on occupied soil, outside the occupied soil, and in every area of the diaspora, in Israeli prisons, and detention camps; in hospitals, in factories, workshops, and farms; especially in the Holy city of Jerusalem, which was chosen by almighty God, of all other towns and places to contain the al-'Aqsa mosque, and to be a starting point of our honourable Prophet Muhammad—the peace and blessing of God be upon him—on his journey to the [seventh] Heaven and talk to Almighty God. [passage omitted: Jerusalem was chosen because of its Christian reverence and previous holy past]

Almighty God wanted your Holy city and your beloved Palestine to be a cradle of divine religions and a symbol of religious tolerance. But our enemies, the enemies of God, wished otherwise. For here we witness one aggression after another against holy shrines and sacred monuments at the hands of official and systematic Israeli terrorism.

On this anniversary, my beloved people, I remember the massacre of the al-'Aqsa mosque when the killing machine—the zionist and terrorist killing machine—

mowed down Palestinian citizens and took the lives of worshippers. Thus it was living evidence of the readiness of our masses to die as martyrs and be sacrificed in defense of Jerusalem and the holy shrines, and a witness of Zionist savagery and crimes.

Pure Palestinian blood will continue to flow in defense of the holy mosque, the Dome of the Rock, and the rest of the Islamic and Christian sacred places in the face of Israeli systematic crimes against our children, women, people, sanctities, and land, especially the continued confiscation of land, the continued settlement, and the continued immigration of Jews from Russia, eastern Europe, and other places, who are settled according to their plan and dreams for the expansion and establishment of Greater Israel from the Nile to the Euphrates. [passage omitted: vowing to continue the struggle for liberation]

The Intifadah will continue to embrace the struggle of our heroes and the blood of our beloved martyrs in heaven until the inevitable victory in free and independent Palestine, whose capital shall be honourable Jerusalem, is achieved. In the Name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate: God granted his Prophet a vision of right. Thou shalt enter the Holy Mosque in peace God willing.

Major Palestinian Factions Issue 5-Point Agreement

JN0202122092 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 2 Feb 92 pp 14, 11

["Pause" column by Hamadah Fara'inah: "Unity Is First and Foremost"]

[Text] The five main influential effective Palestinian factions; namely Fatah, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], the People's Party [communist], and two wings of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] have approved a political and practical agreement that includes the following points:

1. To keep intifadah activities away from political differences and keep its momentum high and integrated to resist Israeli colonialism.

2. The Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah is the sole party authorized to set the agenda of intifadah activities such as strikes and sit-ins. Any other call from any party is not binding on others and on the Palestinians and their national institutions.

3. To refrain from any sort of attack against the members of the Palestinian negotiating delegation since they are assigned by the PLO Executive Committee and are not carrying out this task on their own.

4. To respect the constants and principles and avoid confrontation when any party presents a political position that conflicts with the others, and to refrain from abusing or leveling charges of betrayal, to maintain dialogue and to resort to civilized democratic methods in case of differences and in conducting a dialogue.

5. To reaffirm the agreement concluded by eight Palestinian factions (the five factions in addition to the Palestinian Liberation Front [PLP] and the Arab Liberation Front [ALF], and the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front [PPSF]). I have spoken before in this column about the importance of this agreement when it was concluded on the eve of Madrid conference.

The agreement concluded by the five factions last week reflected in a practical way in the form of the distinguished positive performance of its signatories. The PFLP did not accept the invitation to the meeting of the Palestinian National Salvation Front [PNSF] held in Damascus on the eve of the Moscow multilateral conference. The DFLP (Hawatimah), which accepted the invitation, has not signed the statement issued at the meeting. This left the clear result represented by the failure of the strike in Palestine called for by Hamas on 28 January to protest the convening of the Moscow conference.

The agreement of the five factions, although important, should have been joined by the ALF, the PLP, the PPSF, and the Islamic Jihad (whose leader is Shaykh As'ad al-Tamimi) so that it includes the Palestinian forces that participate in the PLO organs despite the difference in their positions and practical actions.

The Palestinian factions' statement constitutes a new brick in the march of militant Palestinian action which requires reassessment and support at every political turning point so as to emphasize again the integration, accord, and unity which represent the only weapon experienced by the Palestinians in confronting the evil Israeli colonizers.

UNLU Announces Intifadah Activities for February

LD0202202892 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Call no.79, issued by the Unified National Leadership of the Uprising: "The Call of Confrontation Against Colonization"]

[Text] While the victorious intifadah of our people continues and while our people's determination to escalate it and develop it through the renovation of its means of struggle, the Zionist occupation has been escalating its repressive policy in an unprecedentedly hysterical manner, demonstrating a barbaric and bestial racist mentality which cannot control itself in the face of the blows which our people are daily dealing at the Zionist invader and the herds of its settlers.

Following the deportation decision taken against 12 strugglers of our people, which was met with disgust, condemnation and denunciation by the international community, the occupation authorities recently

embarked on an extensive campaign of arrests which covered hundreds of sons of our people.

This rabid campaign exceeded all limits in its barbarism: Children were terrorized, women of the strugglers were assaulted, and property was intentionally destroyed.

The Unified National Leadership of the Uprising [UNLU] reiterates its solidarity with all the detained heroes of our people and their kin, and affirms its complete confidence in our people's ability to deal blow for blow at their enemies by firmly upholding their national unity and escalating their blessed intifadah against the forces of the occupation and the herds of its settlers, so that the occupation is made to realize, sooner or later, that its existence on our soil is impossible.

O masses of our people; the convening of the multilateral conference and its exclusion of the Palestinian issue—the core of the Middle East conflict—serve to confirm again that the objective of the U.S. administration is to liquidate our cause, isolate it from the other Arab issues, persist in its double- standard policy, and overlook the resolutions of international legitimacy. Its aim is also to entrench the Zionist entity in our homeland by normalizing relations [between Israel] and the Arab regimes.

The UNLU appreciates the position of the PLO in boycotting the conference, and refusing to bow to American blackmail efforts in breaking the unity of our people and ignoring their sole legitimate representative, the PLO.

At a time when the occupation authorities are escalating their repressive practices against the sons of our people throughout the state of Palestine, these authorities are engaged in a similar campaign against our heroes detained in jails There can be witnessed every day and every hour a tragedy involving all types of coercion, injustice, and persecution against the prisoners of the Palestinian revolution. In fact, the directorate of Zionist prisons, headed by the rancorous Nazi (Jabi Amir), head of the penitentiary service, are engaged in all forms of collective punishment against our heroic militants: killings, deportation, use of asphyxiating gases, and turning detainee rooms into human cans.

In this context, the UNLU urges humanitarian institutions, defense committees, and all international institutions to immediately intervene to stop this barbaric massacre and the Zionist disregard for Palestinians' life in prisons.

Meanwhile, the UNLU highly assesses the steadfastness of our heroic prisoners who are facing these barbaric practices, and urges them to continue their steadfastness and determination to stay alive, despite the elements of destruction. We tell them: Our appointment is in the morning. Is not the morning close enough?

While highly assessing the stances of all the countries which have stood in solidarity with the sons of our people against whom expulsion orders were adopted, the UNLU stresses that the adoption of the resolution, despite our extreme welcome of it, will not deter the occupation authorities from persisting with their barbaric practices toward the sons of our people. Therefore, we urge the Security Council to adopt a resolution on the basis of which punitive measures should be imposed on the Zionist occupation state in the event of it not abiding by the recent Security Council resolution.

In the light of the increasing ferocity of the occupation authorities and the escalation of their repressive practices, we urge the Security Council, the UN General Assembly and international bodies to immediately intervene to stop the Israeli measures, particularly the permanent night curfew imposed on large towns in Palestine in order to stop settlers from slipping away, and other barbaric practices. We urge these institutions to provide international protection for our people.

Sons of our people, the occupation authorities have recently feverishly stepped up the pace of settlements in Palestinian land, as though they are in a race with time to impose a fait accompli on our people. Before we can ask others to condemn the settlement process and treat it as an unlawful action, it is our duty to retaliate against this process which poses a threat to the future of our people. On the basis of that, the UNLU urges all the sons of our people to immediately refrain from working in the settlements which have been established on our Palestinian land; our workers' stoppage of work in those settlements could greatly influence the continuation of the settlement process on our land.

Furthermore, we ask the factories, the national institutions and the trade unions to seriously and promptly strive to create work opportunities for the workers who boycott work in the settlements. We are fully hopeful that this call of ours will meet with response and understanding from our valiant workers whose true national affiliation and readiness to offer sacrifices for the sake of the national cause of their people whatever the cost we never doubt.

Sons of our heroic people! At the time when the occupation is trying by all means to check the intifadah of our people, the UNLU affirms that the intifadah will continue and escalate and it will only stop after the elimination of the occupation.

In order to create the conditions which would enable our people to continue with their intifadah, the UNLU of believes that the following should be done:

1. Efforts must be exerted to safeguard national unity; disputes which might arise in some places must be overcome; the formation of national reform committees must be completed in all places, and their efforts to prevent the development of any differences that might occ·.r in the future must be coordinated.

2. The UNLU denounces the killing of four people at Kafr Ra'i village, whatever the reasons behind this killing may be. The UNLU has previously warned

against the escalation of the phenomenon of liquidation of those suspected of collaboration with the occupation, and against branding the name of our people's intifadah with this phenomenon, which now forms a heavy burden on it.

The UNLU affirms that it has embarked on a national investigation to find the truth about what has happened, and will take severe measures against any violators in this regard.

The UNLU appeals to all brother strugglers, whose national affiliation and care for the good and achievements of our people we do not doubt, not to be rash and observe all caution and care before convicting any person and executing him.

3. The UNLU strongly condemns the crime of the assassination of Dr Albert Glock, head of the Antiquity Department at the Bir Zayt University who was treacherously, aggressively, and oppressively killed. The UNLU holds the Zionist enemy's intelligence responsible for the murder of Dr Glock, who had rendered valuable services to our Palestinian people.

The UNLU offers its warmest condolences to the family of the deceased.

The UNLU congratulates the masses of our people on the anniversary of al-Isra' [the Prophet's night journey from Mecca to Jerusalem] and al-Mi'raj [his ascension to Heaven on that night], deriving from this blessed anniversary the determination to continue the march to sweep away the occupation from the land of al-Isra' and al-Mi'raj.

The UNLU salutes the Palestinian People's Party on the anniversary of its establishment on 10 February, in its capacity as the legitimate heir to the struggle heritage of the Palestinian Communist Party.

The UNLU also salutes the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] on the anniversary of its glorious start on 22 February.

On these two national occasions, the UNLU expresses salutations of struggle to all the comrades in the Palestine People's Party and in the DFLP. Together until victory.

The UNLU calls on the masses of our people to undertake the following actions:

To consider the first week of February as a week of actions for solidarity with our heroes held prisoner in Zionist jails and a week of protest actions against the campaign of arrests and the recent deportation orders. Coordination must be organized between the committees in the field and the senior women representatives with a view to drawing up a daily agenda for the execution of these actions, such as staging sit-ins in the headquarters of the Red Cross in the state of Palestine [as heard], organizing marches and holding press conferences in collaboration with the lawyers trade union, sending letters and petitions to international institutions and western consuls accredited to Jerusalem.

To stage a general strike on 9 February on the occasion of the 50th month of the Intifadah.

To make 10 February a special day of escalation on the occasion of the anniversary of the creation of the Palestinian People's Party.

To make 14 February a day of escalation and anger against the settlement operations, during which the strike force will harass the army of occupation and the vehicles of the settlers.

To make 8, 13, 21, and 28 February days of full commercial activity during which shops will open their doors all day.

To make 11 and 16 February days of full commercial activity from 1100 until the evening. The masses [as heard] are committed to open all at the same time.

To stage a general strike on 19 February in solidarity with our prisoners detained in the occupation jails.

To make 23 February a week [as heard] of mass escalation to reject the practices of the occupation and reaffirm the masses' determination to rally around the PLO through an escalation of the clashes with the troops of occupation and their settlers and the staging of big marches.

Algeria

Ghozali To Be Replaced; New Government Planned

LD0102104892 Paris France-Inter Radio Network in French 1000 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Text] According to two Algiers newspapers, Algerian Prime Minister Sid Ahmed Ghozali may be fired shortly and replaced with a figure close to the Higher State Council president [title as heard].

A transitional government may be formed to mark a rapprochement with opposition leaders such as Ait Ahmed, Socialist Forces Front general secretary. LA TRIBUNE DE VENDREDI, an organ of the Islamic Salvation Front, advances the name of (Rachid Krik) to succeed Ghozali. (Krik) is one of the founders of the Socialist Revolution Party [Parti de la Revolution Socialiste] chaired by Mohamed Boudiaf before being dissolved in 1979.

Ghozali To Be Replaced in 'Coming Days'

LD0102135492 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Text] Today's AL-WATAN tackles the fate of Ahmed Ghozali's government, writing that the coming days will reveal a government reshuffle which could include discharging Ahmed Ghozali's government and replacing him with a new prime minister.

AL-WATAN says that the Higher State Council chairman is moving in this direction. The newspaper bases this analysis on the assumption that Ahmed Ghozali is facing difficulties convincing the Higher State Council to accept his program for an economic boost and imposing collective discipline among the ministers. AL-WATAN continues its analysis by pointing out that Ahmed Ghozali's government was initially formed on a provisional basis to prepare for the legislative elections, but that recent events, including the resignation of the Republic's president, the cancelation of the second round of legislative elections, and the formation of a Higher State Council prolonged the life span of Ahmed Ghozali's government.

Ghozali Denies Resignation 'Rumors'

LD0102204192 Paris Radio France International in French 1830 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Text] Let's turn to the situation in Algeria. The government is increasing its pressure on the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS]. Several dozen people were arrested yesterday around mosques, which are considered the strongholds of the fundamentalist movement. Some people were also injured when the Army fired shots at the demonstrators.

This firm policy towards the FIS was defended by Algerian Prime Minister Sid Ahmed Ghozali today in Davos, Switzerland, where he is attending the World Economic Forum. Ghozali also denied rumors announcing his upcoming resignation. Correspondent Laurent Messus attended the Algerian prime minister's news conference:

[Messus] The fundamentalists are closer to fascism than Islam. The Algerian prime minister did not mince his words in describing the actions of the FIS leaders. Speaking in Davos at the World Economic Forum seminar, Ghozali attacked those, I quote, who exploit the desperate situation of many Algerians. What has happened in Algeria, the prime minister said, has nothing to do with Islam. There are always and everywhere people who are ready to exploit the crisis: the FIS here and other extremist groups elsewhere.

The actions currently taken by the authorities are not at all against democracy, he said. We have acted to preserve order and the integrity of the country. Talking about the legality of his government, Ghozali said that the Constitution is not an end in itself and that the aim of the executive is to create better living conditions for the people.

Following a period of relaxation, the government, warned the prime minister, is now determined to impose respect for the law. It is clear that the mosques cannot be used for political purposes. We intend, said the prime minister, to be firm in this matter and not to let just anyone do anything they like.

Further on Denial

LD0202061892 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 0600 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Ghozali has denied reports stating that he was getting ready to submit his resignation. He also denied that the Higher State Council rejected the economic development plan.

Ghozali, who is participating in the international economic meeting being held in Switzerland, said at a news conference that measures to maintain security which are being taken daily in Algeria were proving for the first time that the state intended to exercise its authority and impose respect for the law. He pointed out that the law and Islam prevent the use of mosques as forums for political parties.

In reply to a question by the [words indistinct] television, the prime minister said that any organization rejecting the principles of democracy and not respecting the law will face banning. [passage omitted]

Clashes Break Out in Algiers 31 Jan

Gunfire Reported in el-Harrach

LD3101153992 Algiers Radio Algiers Network 1500 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Text] The radio has learned that tension was witnessed around the el-Chafie Mosque in el-Harrach District [east of Algiers] during which gunfire was heard.

The source of the report has added that members of the security forces went to the area to arrest Mr. Mohamed Said [Islamic Salvation Front official], but he was not there. A scuffle took place, however.

Security Forces Fire in Bab el-Oued

LD3101171592 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Text] The Algerian news agency has reported that tension is still high in the Bab el-Oued quarter of Algiers this afternoon. This is especially the case around the police station in the fifth department, where large groups of youths are chanting slogans hostile to the security forces. The sound of warning automatic gunfire fired by the security forces to disperse the groups has been heard.

Also, ambulances were seen heading for Maillot Hospital in the same area, and staff were observed getting ready to receive possible casualties. Significant forces of the Army's special forces and the gendarmerie, backed by light armored vehicles and armed with machine guns, are in position in the lower part of the Climant de France quarter and at the crossroads leading to the 5 July Stadium. Meanwhile, helicopters of the National People's Army are hovering low over Bab el-Oued.

7 Injured in Bab el-Oued, 15 Arrested

LD3101175592 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Text] Calm returned to the Bab el-Oued district about an hour ago following disturbances in the area close to the el-Sunna Mosque. The disturbances did not produce any victims. Calm still prevails despite the rather chaotic scenes that followed the exit of soccer fans from Bologhine Stadium.

Before that there were clashes between groups of youths and the security forces, as a result of which seven people were injured, among them one woman and a policeman. The clashes also resulted in the arrest of 15 persons, according to national gendarmerie sources.

20 Injured, 25 Arrested

LD3101230892 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 2200 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Text] Calm returned this evening to the Bab el-Oued, el-Harrach, and Hocine Dey areas, where incidents of tension occurred after the Friday prayers, in particular near the el-Sunna Mosque in Bab el-Oued.

There was some confusion in the Bab el-Oued district coinciding with the departure of spectators from Bologhine Stadium.

During these situations of tension, scuffles were recorded between groups of youths and security forces. As a result, 20 persons were injured, three of whom were security officers. Also as a result of the incidents, 25 persons were detained, according to a statement issued by the Algiers security authorities.

In the eastern part of the country, calm returned to Constantine this evening. There had also been limited cases of tension near the el-Arqam Mosque in Ouinat el-Foul District, as a result of which two persons were injured and one detained.

Further on Clashes, Casualties

NC3101210792 Paris AFP in English 2013 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Text] Algiers, Jan 31 (AFP)—Moslem fundamentalist militants clashed with police here and in several Algerian towns during or after Friday prayers, the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) said.

The FIS, in a statement signed by an "interim executive bureau," said each incident had left "several" people injured, but gave no precise figures.

It cited clashes at Algiers, in which riot police opened fire as Islamic militants threw stones at them around the el-Sunna Mosque, and at Constantine, where police fired tear-gas grenades to disperse demonstrators.

Similar incidents were reported at Oran, in the west of the country, Laghouat in the south, Barika in the east, and el-Golea, in the centre.

The FIS said most of the incidents had been provoked by police arresting their preachers.

Police used tear-gas at Laghouat, fired shots at Oran and "violated" a mosque at el-Golea, the statement said.

The APS news agency said two imams had been arrested at Aflou, in the south, and at Bordj-Bou-Arreridj, in the east, for "incitement to rebellion."

Several people were injured in the incidents in Algiers where tension increased after security forces arrested a well-known imam, Cheikh Yazid, witnesses said.

The Algiers gendarmerie said eight people, including a police officer, were injured and 15 people were arrested following the clashes.

A local hospital said three young people and a woman were admitted for treatment.

The disturbances at Constantine were the second outbreak of violence there in successive days.

Local residents said police made several arrests and that calm had returned to the city centre by early evening.

No official confirmation was received regarding the arrests.

Most of the top leadership of the FIS has been arrested since the government canceled the second round of legislative elections on January 16.

The FIS, which had pledged to make Algeria an Islamic republic if it took power, won most of the seats at stake in the first round of the polls in December and appeared certain to win a parliamentary majority in the second round of voting.

FIS Says 5 Killed in Clashes

LD0202160592 Rabat Moroccan Kingdom Radio Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] The Islamic Salvation Front issued a statement on the provisional outcome of the clashes which took place the day before yesterday between security men and some FIS members, in which it announced the killing of five people and the arrest of 109 others.

The Algerian security authorities, however, announced that those incidents resulted in 20 people being injured and 90 detained.

Further on Arrests of Opposition Figures

FIS Provincial Leader Arrested, Imam Jailed

LD0202233992 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 2200 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Excerpts] [Announcer] The chairman of the executive bureau of the Islamic Salvation Front in Sidi-Bel-Abbes has been arrested on the charge of distributing Communiques Nos. 9 and 10 issued by the aforementioned party. Here are details from radio reporter Larbi Belidi:

[Belidi] Security services in Sidi-Bel-Abbes province yesterday, Saturday, morning arrested Boukhari Maachou, chairman of the FIS provincial executive bureau in that province. Police Commissioner Bouterfas stated that Cheikh Boukhari Maachou was arrested on the charge of distributing copies of Communiques Nos. 9 and 10 issued by the leadership of the FIS provisional bureau. Copies of these communiques were found plastered on walls outside many mosques in the town of Sidi-Bel-Abbes. Police Commissioner Bouterfas added that these communiques were banned and therefore Boukhari was detained to await trial by the Sidi-Bel-Abbes judicial council, located in the center of town in 1 May Square, where a substantial number of FIS supporters and activists would be waiting for Cheikh Boukhari's trial.

According to the police commissioner, the detained Cheikh Boukhari has admitted that he had indeed distributed these communiques to activists for their information, not to be plastered on walls. [passage omitted]

[Announcer] In the same context, a court at Bechar sentenced an imam to two months imprisonment and a fine on the charge of incitement. Here are details from radio reporter Mouloud Dabbah:

[Dabbah] We have learned from the prosecuting attorney at the Bechar court that at 1700 on Sunday, 2 February, the imam of the Uthman Ibn Affan Mosque, located in the (Debdaba) district of Bechar municipality, was sentenced on the charge of inciting citizens during the Friday prayers on 24 and 31 January to carry arms against the authority of the state. The accused was held in custody until investigation procedures were completed.

We have also learned from a judicial source that Ferradj Abdallah, a teacher at Abadla and an FIS activist, was sentenced to two months imprisonment on the charge of inciting citizens to disobedience and rebellion during the Friday prayer on 24 January.

Imams Arrested for Urging Desertions

LD3101213292 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in French 2000 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Text] In Constantine, we have learned of the arrest of an imam, the author of a sermon calling for rebellion. This imam has already been the subject of an arrest warrant issued against him by the police a week ago.

An unspecified number of people have been arrested in the region following clashes.

Elswhere, the imam of the mosque in Aflou in the wilaya of Laghouat, and another of Bordj Ghedir, of Bordj Bouararidj Wilaya, have both been arrested after reading communiques from the Islamic Salvation Front urging the Army to desert.

3 Imams Arrested in Tipasa

LD0202225992 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in French 2200 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Excerpt] In a communique today the police of Tipasa Wilaya announced the arrest of three imams who during prayers used words which were offensive and slanderous to state officials and who incited the population to disobedience. [passage omitted]

Further on Arrest of Tipasa Imams

LD0302115692 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1100 GMT 3 Feb 92

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Two imams were committed to prison on Friday, 31 January, immediately after the Friday prayers at the Abi Dharr el-Ghafari Mosque in 'Ain Benian, while the imam of the (Chraga) Mosque was thrown in prison after being apprehended on Saturday. Security men had been pursuing him since 24 January.

The statement by national security in Tipasa Province adds that the search for other wanted imams continues.

Further Reportage on Government Security Actions

Police To Capture FIS Algiers Headquarters

LD0302131692 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 3 Feb 92

[Text] A significant presence of national gendarmerie forces was noticed this morning on Rue des Freres

Hamani Arezki, formerly Charras Street. According to national gendarmerie sources, its forces have been ordered to retake the old headquarters of the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS] located on that street, in order to return it to the Ministry of Economy. The national gendarmerie forces blocked all the roads leading to that street and partially halted traffic at Amirouche Street to carry out the operation.

State Says 1 Youth Killed in Badjaraj

LD3101195592 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Text] The security authorities of Algiers Wilaya today categorically denied the death of an elderly woman and a child following the scuffles which took place in Badjaraj, as claimed by a number of national information organs.

The statement of the Algiers Wilaya security authorities pointed out that among those who were injured, only one youth had died of his wounds.

42 Reported Arrested 17-25 Jan

LD0302144292 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 3 Feb 92

[Text] Forty-two people were detained during the period from 17 to 25 January on orders of the judicial authorities for disturbing public order and the system for the management of mosques.

According to the national gendarmerie command, those remanded were clerics who had instigated disturbances throughout the homeland.

3 Protestors Arrested in Jijel

LD0202213992 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in French 1800 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] The security forces used tear gas in Jijel yesterday evening to disperse a gathering around the court where an Islamic Salvation Front militant was being tried.

According to APS, three people who were throwing stones at the security forces were arrested.

Students Arrested in Constantine Acquitted

LD0202215692 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in French 1800 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Excerpts] You will certainly remember that the police arrested three foreigners last week in Constantine, students who were involved in clashes with the police. These three people appeared before a judge today and were acquitted. From Constantine, here is correspondent Nordin Zerich.

[Zerich] There is some news in the affair of the three Jordanian and Palestinian students who were arrested last Thursday in Constantine. This morning (Boulbija Hamed), (Walid Karim), and (Abu Aoun Afan) were brought before the court. After listening to the accused, the court retired to pronounce its verdict. [passage omitted]

As there was still some doubt, the court acquitted the three students—two Jordanians and a Palestinian—because of insufficient evidence.

Brahimi Details State's Plan To Regain Order

LD0102090692 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 0800 1 Feb 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Lakhdar Brahimi stated in an interview with yesterday's edition of the Italian daily CORRIERE DELLA SERA that the restoration of the authority of the state will be achieved in three stages: The first stage will be the holding of presidential elections, followed by the organization of a referendum on amendments to the Constitution, and then the restoration of the democratic process in the right direction.

Mr. Brahimi added that Algeria is going through a serious economic crisis and that it therefore requires, in order to get out of the tunnel, a serious program of economic reforms. He pointed out that it is rather hard to achieve national concord in the conditions of the current economic crisis.

Boudiaf Refuses To Meet With FLN's Mehri

LD0202173192 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in French 1600 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] Mohamed Boudiaf, president [title as heard] of the Higher State Council, has reportedly rejected a request for a meeting with Abdelhamid Mehri, secretary general of the National Liberation Front [FLN]. This was reported by the evening daily EL-MASSA.

The paper points out that the president of the Higher State Council justified his rejection of this request by the fact, I quote, that he had not yet begun a dialogue with the political parties.

According to EL-MASSA, Mehri reportedly sent his request for an audience after the suspension of the extraordinary session of the FLN Central Committee last Tuesday. I remind you that this information has been reported by EL-MASSA; for the time being there has been no official confirmation.

FFS Denies Role in Future FIS Government

LD0202232592 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in French 1600 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] The Socialist Forces Front [FFS] has just reacted to the information that the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS] is considering giving it governmental and parliamentary responsibilities after the second round of the legislative elections. In a communique which has just reached us, the FFS says it believes that, I quote, these plans—if they

exist—only commit their authors and that the FFS has not been involved in them at any time or in any way.

The FFS says that this is no longer news; it dates from 21 January, the communique continues, and the fact that it was revived and over-publicized in the media 10 days ago is no coincidence. It also comes within the framework of the hysterical campaign of disinformation waged against the FFS. According to the communique, the FFS once again denounces the return to a totalitarian manipulation of information. I remind you that the FFS was reacting to the remarks made by Mr. (Ait Daoud), an FIS official in Paris. Speaking on Radio France International on 21 January, he stated that the FIS had envisaged granting the post of speaker of the Assembly to Mr. Ait Ahmed and also forming a government extended to include the parties represented in parliament.

Mr. (Ait Daoud's) remarks were not denied during the same roundtable where the Algerian political parties were represented; and since 21 January, the date when the information was made public, neither the FFS nor any other political party has reacted.

Foreign Ministry Offers To Receive Habash

LD3101233192 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 2300 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Text] In a statement issued on Friday evening, the Algerian Foreign Ministry announced that the Algerian authorities are ready to receive Dr. George Habash, whose hospitalization in France on Thursday evening has resulted in unacceptable political exploitation.

The statement said that the hospitalization of Dr. Habash, an important PLO leader, in France on Thursday evening has resulted in unacceptable political exploitation. What should ordinarily have been a mere humanitarian action which would have honored its organizers has been diverted. It has become clear through this case that there is a will to harm the role that France has been seeking to play in a natural way, especially thanks to its relations with the PLO [words indistinct].

Egypt

Mubarak Discusses 'Basic Duties' of Muslims

NC0102215092 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1920 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Speech by President Husni Mubarak at a ceremony marking the Prophet Muhammad's night journey and ascension to heaven, in Cairo—live]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Today, brothers, we meet to mark a very gracious anniversary and to celebrate in a manner befitting its majesty. We draw the noblest meaning and profoundest morals from this occasion: The anniversary of God's transportation of His Prophet from the Inviolable Mosque to al-Aqsa Mosque, carrying him from earth to the highest heavens, where the honorable Prophet witnessed God's greatest signs. [passage omitted]

Our celebration of this glorious anniversary coincides with major regional and international events that profoundly affect our Islamic world and require our nation's sons to be very vigilant, to work with more committment, and strive with perseverance to attain the desired goal. These events, coming at this critical time in world history, require Muslims, like others, to play a positive and effective role in the international transformation, which has no place for the weak, backward, languorous, or hesitant. Such a role requires the Islamic nation to carry out several basic duties necessitated by the new developments and the changing local and international situations. The first basic duty is to seek to restore the Islamic nation's honorable and dignified status now that this new world has given it the opportunity to achieve greater scientific and technological progress, in the context of comprehensive social and economic development. This development can be carried out in an atmosphere of stability that enables the Islamic states to devote their efforts to solving the real problems and challenges that lie in their path and enabling the Islamic nation to carry out its basic role of achieving peace and progress. [passage omitted]

It is everyone's responsibility to seek to achieve progress, by which this nation can regain its status through a comprehensive and enlightened Islamic renaissance. Expounding on the true essence of Islam, its noble values, and its eternal principles is primarily the responsibility of preachers and ulema. It also is the responsibility of every Muslim in every walk of life. [passage omitted]

Undoubtedly, preachers and ulema bear primary responsibility for enlightenment, guidance, and revealing Islam's shining reality and brilliant image of tolerance. Departure from this true image has led to the numerous negative influences from which the Islamic world suffers today. It also has created numerous obstacles that bar the nation's progress on the path of construction and which—unless we join in efforts to eliminate them—will halt our progress and prevent us from attaining our goals and enjoying our appropriate status in the world.

Some who do not know true Islam have perpetrated excesses and repeatedly carried out negative actions, which have attached to Islam qualities which are not part of its essence; attributed to it values and principles that are foreign to it; and given it a distorted, dark image that totally conceals its splendor and enlightenment. This reached the point where some people profiteered through Islam; used one-upmanship in its name; and manipulated its venerable text and tolerant, humanitarian teachings. Islam's teachings are always on the side of right and goodness and protective of justice and legitimacy.

These excesses and negative aspects—sometimes the result of ignorance and impetuousness and sometimes the result of personal ambition and greed—have harmed the reputation of Muslims in many areas. The image of Islam was shaken in the eyes of many non-Muslims who, on hearing the name of Muslims, began to associate it in their minds with terrorism, violence, stagnation, and backwardness. They also associated Islam and Muslims with passivity, dependency, ignorance, absence of liberty, and hostility toward democracy and justice, of which Islam and Muslims are actually innocent.

Undoubtedly, many who do not view Islam and Muslims in their true image or pass wrongful judgments on them are biased, and lack proper logic or a sound scientific method.

There is no doubt that many who belong to Islam, through their excesses and negative actions, provide those who hate Islam with ammunition. If we Muslims avoid these excesses and negative aspects and begin our awakening through a correct understanding of the true substance of Islam, we will forestall those who distort our image, obstruct our progress, retard our nation, and prevent it from reaching the high status it should occupy in the new world.

The second duty dictated by the current situation is that our policy should proceed toward a just peace, so that peace should be our course and principle not only in our relations among ourselves, but also our method in dealing with others. Peace is the condition that God, the creator of life, decreed to safeguard life. Peace is the path toward stability, development, and prosperity, and is the spirit of the age. Peace is the dominant trend in today's world, mankind having experienced destructive wars that cost people a great deal of suffering and hardship. Fighting and conflict result only in wasting efforts and resources and halting development, which often leads to destruction, devastation, and bloodshed. The civilized world no longer views war waged for reasons other than legitimate self-defense as a means to achieve demands or gains. War inflicts losses, even on the victor, that cannot be compensated. When people can resolve problems and obtain their rights without war, there will be no reason for war or to resort to force, with the only exception being absolute necessity.

With its tolerance and humanness, Islam calls for and preaches peace and even makes it the basic rule in international relations and dealings. God Almighty said: But if the enemy incline towards peace, do thou (also) incline towards peace, and trust in God. [Koranic verse] [passage omitted]

The third basic duty dictated by current events is to pursue a policy seeking solidarity and cohesion, because today's world is one of strong and cohesive entities that are more capable of meeting challenges, confronting problems, and surmounting difficulties and obstacles. [passage omitted]

The forth basic duty required in an Islamic revival is to apply genuine democracy in our lives. In a genuine democracy, the people feel that they are dignified human beings who belong to their society. They work hard, become creative, and lead happy and secure lives. Democracy protects a society from making mistakes and persisting in falsehoods. It enables a society to discover the best alternatives and best ideas through a diversity of views and concepts. The people are more able to tell right from wrong, and what benefits them or threatens their interests and rights. Democracy is thus a safety valve for the entire society and a sure guarantee for the ruler and ruled. [passage omitted]

The fifth basic duty dictated by the current situation is to embrace the principle of responsible freedom that is free from control and is disciplined. Freedom is innate in human beings, and depriving one's freedom means depriving him of his natural asset. [passage omitted]

Although freedom is a sacred right of individuals, peoples, and nations, true freedom that safeguards an individual's dignity, the society's laws, and serves the nation's well-being is responsible freedom. [passage omitted]

The sixth basic duty imposed by current events is to deepen our feelings of fraternity for each other and make them the basis for our relations, so that friendship reigns, cooperation spreads, and love deepens. [passage omitted]

The seventh basic duty is that our country proceed with comprehensive growth: Scientific, social, educational, and cultural growth for mankind to prosper; agricultural and industrial growth for the economy to prosper; and defense and security growth to stabilize and maintain peace and security. Without comprehensive growth, a group of people becomes weak and incompetent and cannot find a place in the new world order. Our true religion—the religion of science, civics, and culture—urges education, honors educators, elevates the status of civics, and calls for everything that advances the culture of the true Muslim. [passage omitted]

Islam also calls for agricultural and industrial development. The Koran's texts and the Prophet's teachings urged this kind of development. The basis for this is the Islamic call for honorable and serious work and profitable production. [passage omitted]

If we want our nation to take the position befitting it in this new world, we must implement comprehensive development, which provides the nation with power, meets its demands, enriches its resources, and bolsters its independence and freedom of willpower.

As for development in the field of defense and security, it is the fence that protects everything and maintains every achievement. It is the effective force which gives the national entity weight, growth, meaning, and significance. Without a defense and security force, everything is threatened and subject to aggression. In the final

analysis, the nation is exposed to subjugation and humiliation, and then loss. Regardless of world tendencies toward peace and the renunciation of war, human nature will persist in threatening the defenseless and taking advantage of opportunities to attack the weak and oppressed. Therefore, there must be a force that protects peace. There must be a shield that maintains security. There must be means to protect the nation and its citizens from any threats.

We call for developing the country's defense and security force because, by so doing, we are protecting our peace and that of others. Such a force prevents armed confrontation and deters people from thinking about war. In other words, preparedness and armaments are justified when used to shield the country, but not to commit aggression; to protect, but not oppress; to defend and deter, but not to attack and terrorize the defenseless.

Therefore, we need to proceed along the course of comprehensive growth, so that we can progress in all fields, develop in all sectors, realize our safe and stable existence, and take our suitable position in the world of today and tomorrow, which is the world of force and progress, assertion of freedom, and independence of will and identity.

The eighth duty imposed on us at this stage is that each of us shoulder his duty honorably and consider the interest of the nation in whatever he takes or leaves. The first of these duties is to honor one's word. Words should not be employed to mislead, wager, or forge facts. The masses should not be mobilized by glittery phrases and empty slogans for a transient personal objective or a cheap party goal. A promise is an honor and a message. [passage omitted]

There has been a great deal of misguidance in the name of religion; there also has been a great deal of destruction in the name of freedom; corruption has spread in the name of democracy; and many lies and forgeries have been propagated in the name of truthfulness and justice. The time has come for people to fear God in their society and nation. The words of those who are dishonest hold great danger.

The ninth duty at this transformational stage is to enhance our work on behalf of our Muslim brothers and help them solve the problems they confront and the difficulties before them, wherever they are located on the map of our contemporary world. This is a collective duty imposed upon us by the spirit of Islam, which its teachings call for—teachings that urge solidarity, continuity, and mercy.

Ladies and gentlemen, these nine basic duties have been my thoughts on this sweet occasion, the night commemorating the Prophet Muhammad's nocturnal journey to Jerusalem and ascension to heaven. They are all duties the early Muslims performed, attaining lofty positions for themselves and their nation, and immortalizing their actions and realizations throughout time. I believe that if we perform these basic duties correctly, we will have marched down the correct path and realized the desired goal. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister on Moscow Talks, Habash Case

NC0102160692 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Text] Cairo, 1 Feb (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today heard a report from Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa on the results of the multilateral talks on the Middle East situation which convened recently in Moscow.

President Mubarak received Musa at the Presidential Palace in Heliopolis. Musa returned from Moscow yesterday after representing Egypt at the talks. After the meeting, Musa said that the report he gave President Mubarak today dealt with the peace process in the Middle East as a whole, Arab contacts before and during the Moscow meetings, the process of coordination among the Arab delegations, and the future course of the peace process.

Responding to a question on whether the Egyptian statement he delivered in Moscow clarifies that the peace process, including the multilateral talks, depends on respecting and implementing the principle of land for peace, Musa affirmed that the multilateral talks cannot be separated from the Arab-Israeli bilateral talks.

He added that in this regard, Egypt affirmed that the success of the multilateral negotiations depends on the success of the bilateral negotiations. If no success is made in the bilaterals, on the basis of land for peace and Israel's withdrawal from the occupied territories, the multilateral talks will not yield any results.

On whether the recent French stand regarding Dr. George Habash, leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, could affect the Middle East peace process, Foreign Minister Musa said: We hope it will not affect the peace process at all, because this process is beyond being affected by any [word indistinct].

Responding to a question on the possibility of convening an Egyptian-Syrian summit soon, Musa said Syria has been informed of developments at the Moscow multilateral talks.

He added: We informed our Syrian brothers of this during our evaluation of this process.

'Amr Musa said that his report to President Husni Mubarak also dealt with the situation in Algeria, adding: We follow developments there with great concern.

The foreign minister voiced Egypt's hope that fraternal Algeria would soon overcome its situation, so that it could continue to play its important role in the Arabic world.

Touching on Egyptian overtures toward Africa, 'Amr Musa said that this was at the highest level and noted that President Husni Mubarak's visits to African countries form part of Egyptian-African solidarity. He said that Egypt gives top priority to inter-African relations and to African problems in its international exchanges and diplomatic activity.

The foreign minister said that Egypt's moves toward Africa are in line with Egypt's concern for its problems and its political and economic consultations with African leaders.

In his report to President Mubarak, the foreign minister also dealt with the Nonaligned Movement ministerial committee meeting in Cyprus on Monday, the day after tomorrow; developments in Yugoslavia; and the Group of 15 meetings in Geneva, which will be attended by representatives of influential developing countries.

The foreign minister said his report touched on his tour, which starts tomorrow with the trip to Cyprus for meetings aimed at activating the Nonaligned Movement, and his visit to Germany on Tuesday.

'Amr Musa said that he will hold talks there with Foreign Minister Genscher and senior German officials on Egyptian-German relations, Egyptian-European relations, and world problems.

Musa said that he will visit Turkey on Thursday, where he will attend the joint Egyptian-Turkish committee meetings. He said that talks on his tour will cover Mediterranean developments; the situation in the Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe, and the Middle East; and the multilateral negotiations.

Foreign Ministry Announces Ties With Belarus

NC0202112992 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1055 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] Cairo, 2 Feb (MENA)—The Egyptian Foreign Ministry issued a statement today saying that the Arab Republic of Egypt and Belarus have agreed to establish diplomatic relations, with a view to further consolidating the traditional ties of friendship and cooperation between the two peoples.

Libya

Lockerbie Suspects' Lawyer Says Charges 'Baseless'

NC0202185192 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1750 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] Amman, 2 Feb (MENA)—Counselor Dr. Ibrahim al-Ghuwayl, the lawyer defending the two Libyans accused of planting a bomb on Pan Am flight 103, has assured the press that neither of his clients was involved in the incident.

During a news conference in Amman this evening, Dr. al-Ghuwayl said that Western claims against his clients are incorrect and baseless, and that the accusations against the two Libyan citizens lack authenticity. Dr. al-Ghuwayl added that the Western campaign is part of a scheme to make Libya "a scapegoat."

Al-Ghuwayl emphasized that Libya is prepared to cooperate with the United Nations in giving the two accused a fair trial, provided that international observers attend the proceedings.

The Western media, he said, is implementing a plot to depict Libya as a state which possesses a sophisticated arms arsenal in an effort to mobilize world public opinion to guarantee that it remains neutral if the West attacks Libya on the pretext of safeguarding security and peace.

Jallud Criticizes UN Role in Lockerbie Case

NC0102092292 Ankara TURKISH DAILY NEWS in English 29 Jan 92 p 5

[Report on interview with 'Abd-al-Salam Jallud by Yusuf Kanli and Lale Sariibrahimoglu in Ankara; date not given]

[Text] Libya's second strongman, Major 'Abd-al-Salam Jallud, denied Tuesday charges that Libya was supporting international terrorism and said his country was against every kind of terrorism "be it individual, international or state terrorism." In an exclusive interview with the TURKISH DAILY NEWS, Jallud said the charges that his country was providing support to separatist Kurdish Workers Party [PKK] were "a bad joke that no one can believe."

He said Libya had never supported PKK terrorism, it was not supporting the terrorist gang now and it would not support it in the future.

He said "the United States, Zionist and Masonic circles" were against Turkey having good relations with the Arab and Islamic world and were spreading "unfounded" claims that could not be substantiated.

The Libyan second in command said Libya and the entire Arab and Islamic world wished to see Turkey "united, stable, strong and in peace."

"Where is our interest in having a destabilized and weak Turkey? That's not in our interest. We want Turkey to be strong and stable," he said.

The Libyan official said all Muslim countries, including the Islamic republics of the former Soviet Union should forge relations with each other. He said these countries should cooperate in all fields on a good and sound basis.

"We should spare no efforts. We shall work, as we have done in the past and as we shall do in the future, to stop any acts that may jeopardize good relations between Turkey and its neighbors. This effort includes doing our best to bring an end to separatist activities."

Jallud said because of the disintegration of the Warsaw Pact and the Soviet Union, the international system had come to the verge of collapse and the United States remained the sole superpower.

He charged that as the sole superpower, the United States was trying to dominate the world and establish hegemony over the other countries.

"The international system cannot revolve on one axis. There has to be more than one axis... two and perhaps three." Voicing his concern about a world order where Christian culture could dominate other cultures, particularly Islam, Jallud underlined the need for the Islamic world to respond effectively to the challenges it faced.

He said the Islamic world was "unfortunately" not responding effectively to the challenges and said: "This is a very weak point (of the Islamic countries)."

He complained: "The political will of Islam is still weak." Expressing his hope for the resurgence of the power of the Islamic masses, Jallud said because of its history and geography, Islam could become the second axis of the new world order.

He said: "The unjust treatment, injustices and oppression that have been practiced against Muslims will lead to the awakening of the masses and they will impose radical and fundamental changes on the Islamic systems."

"The people are getting ready for a revolution," he said adding that in view of the injustices and oppression they were subjected to, the Islamic peoples may have no other option but to resort to "jihad (holy war) for self-defense, but not for aggression."

He said self-defense was recognized by all religions and by international law.

Asked about the United Nations Security Council resolution asking Libya to hand over two Libyan citizens accused of planting a bomb which downed a Pan Am jet over the Scottish town of Lockerbie in 1988, Jallud said the resolution was not only incompatible with international law and the Montreal Agreement, but also with the charter of the United Nations because it was against the sovereignty of Libya.

He said that at talks with Turkish leaders in Ankara, he explained the Libyans viewed the issue as a legal and judicial one and the Security Council was not the appropriate body to handle the matter. He said the Security Council's handling of the issue had set a dangerous precedent.

Jallud said the United States and the West were pressing for a verdict without trial. He said Libya was asked to provide "concrete and material evidence" which showed that she had not undertaken any investigation and established a verdict of her own based on hearsay.

He also said Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel had expressed his understanding of "our point of view" and supported Libya acting in a peaceful and legal manner.

Jallud said excluding the United States and the West, the entire world supported the Libyan view over the issue. He said Demirel promised to make every effort to explain the Libyan point of view and added that he was told that Turkey understood the UN Security Council decision was incompatible with international law and the charter of the United Nations. Jallud also denied charges that Libya was recruiting nuclear experts from the former Soviet Union. He said Libya never had the intention of possessing a nuclear program.

"The United States knows for sure that we neither have the intention nor the capability of producing nuclear weapons."

"We don't hear them making any mention of the Israeli nuclear weapons and arms of mass destruction that they have established in violation of international law," he said.

He noted that Israel was refusing to allow inspection of its nuclear program and that it wasn't a party to the nuclear non-proliferation treaty.

He said the charge was an American fabrication "to fool international public opinion" about Libya.

Regarding the Cyprus problem, Jallud said his country was supporting the United Nations secretary-general's efforts to bring about a solution to the problem.

He said his country supported the Turkish view that a partnership state of the two communities of the island be established. He emphasized that Libya "cannot accept Turkish Cypriots being recognized as second-class citizens. We cannot allow injustices to be imposed upon the Turkish Cypriots."

Lockerbie Victims' Families Oppose Military Action

LD0102153592 Tripoli JANA in English 1424 GMT 1 Feb 92

["Delegates of the Families of the Pan Am Victims Reject Any Military Action"—JANA headline]

[Text] Paris, Al-Nowar [February] 1, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—Delegates of the families of the victims of the Pan Am aircraft incident in Lockerbie in Scotland in 1988 rejected any resort to military action which may lead to the death of further innocent victims. The delegate of the families Rodetski [name as received] told the French newspaper LE FIGARO "we reject any military action which may increase the number of innocent victims. [no closing quotation marks as received] The delegates called for the establishment of a tribunal for the trial of terrorist cases.

U.S. Human Rights Report on Libya 'False'

LD0102191292 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1850 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Text] Tripoli, 1 February—In regard to the annual U.S. report on the state of human rights in the world which was published in Washington yesterday, an informed source at the People's Bureau for External Liaison and International Cooperation has stated that the part pertaining to Libya is false. He said that it constitutes interference in the internal affairs of a UN member state and reflects the logic of guardianship, and it is consequently rejected.

The Libyan people have not complained about a lack of public or individual freedoms and they enjoy the right of assembly and expression on a wide scale through the popular congresses as well as through their unions and trade unions. The Libyan people find immunity in the Great Green Document on Human Rights which guarantees man's right to self-determination and to benefit from the results of his efforts and his right to defend his beliefs and the public expression of his views. There is no repression in Libya. Therefore, what the report has stated is nothing but pure fabrication.

JANA Editor Applauds Announced U.S. Arms Cuts

LD3101185892 Tripoli JANA in English 1818 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Text] Tripoli, A'ina al-Nar [January] 31, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The American President George Bush said that his administration will act for the reduction of military production by 50 billion dollars through the next 5 years and that includes the suspension of further production of strategic missiles and aircraft.

He added in his annual speech of the State of the Union that he will give instructions for his government to stop the manufacture of any further military nuclear war-heads.

The JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY international affairs editor commented on this news saying: We welcome any attitude for stopping the armament race and the elimination of all mass destruction weapons and offensive weapons from the Earth which has always been the attitude called for by Great Jamahiriyah. Moreover, in its historic proposals project presented to the United Nations to solve a number of issues and problems that disturb humanity the Great Jamahiriyah confirmed that possession of those arms and threats to use it constitute a highly dangerous form of fright for the whole humanity including those who possess it.

Great Jamahiriyah also proposed through this project, a fixed time schedule to enable the world abolish those weapons.

The editor added: As we welcome any step in this direction we confirm at the same time that the realization and enhancement of international peace and security also require the abandonment of the language of threats to use force, sanctions and starvation of people, in the dealings between nations. Instead we have to go for the logic of dialogue, negotations and observing the interest of the people on the basis and principles that are endorsed by international conventions and charters.

The international affairs editor went on to explain that as the peace and security of the world are closely linked and can not be split, its causes and origins that affect it should not be dealt with separately. The international community faces other problems and disputes which are like time bombs in the road of stability and peace. Such problems include the issue of compensations in respect of the colonialization damages for the nations that suffered from it. It also include the problems of the refugees, the exiled, the hostages, the minorities, water and food security, serious epidimics like AIDS, the definition and causes of international terrorism and accordingly its elimination.

Al-Bishari Meets With IAEA Head

LD0102213992 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 1930 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Text] The secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for External Liaison and International Cooperation [Ibrahim Muhammad al-Bishari] conferred at noon today with Dr. Hans Blix, director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], who is currently on a visit to the Great Jamairiyah. During the meeting, which was attended by the brother secretary of the People's Committee for Scientific Research [Nuri al-Fayturi al-Madani], a discussion was held concerning the adequate means to bolster the relations of cooperation existing between the Great Jamahiriyah and the organization in all fields.

The brother secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for External Liaison and International Cooperation reiterated the firm stand of the Jamahiriyah vis-a-vis the elimination of all nuclear and bacteriological weapons which are threaterning the world. He confirmed that the Great Jamahiriyah seeks the maximum utilization of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and calls for the creation of an arms-free zone in the Mediterranean Sea and the Middle East regions.

Dr. Hans Blix expressed his appreciation at the comprehensive cooperation between the Great Jamahiriyah and the organization. He said that he will hold several contacts in the Great Jamahiriyah with the aim of creating further cooperation in order to eradicate the allegations circulated by Western media that have no connection with reality.

Editor Criticizes Western View of Arab Legitimacy

LD3101200492 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1915 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Excerpts] Paris, 31 Jan (JANA)—The French social affairs minister said that George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine,

who is being treated at a French hospital, is considered as being held in [police] custody and will be interrogated. [passage omitted]

JANA's political editor commented that because Dr. George Habash, who is being treated under the auspices of the Red Cross and who is a member of the PLO, which is recognized by the United Nations, and is being treated as a terrorist, it has become clear that our legitimacy and struggle are terrorism and that their terrorism is legitimacy.

They want us to behave on that basis; and the whole world must know this truth, which is that our legitimacy and struggle are terrorism and that their terrorism is international legitimacy.

Emergency Meeting Denounces 'Colonialist Campaign'

LD3101222292 Tripoli JANA in English 1647 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Text] Tripoli, A'ina al-Nar [January] 31, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—Participants in the proceedings of the national emergency meeting denounced the new colonialist campaign against Great Jamahiriyah.

The meeting dealt to with internal and external threats that lurk on Arab nationalism.

The participants in the meeting issued a statement at the end of their proceedings in Tripoli yesterday confirming that the campaign against Great Jamahiriyah aims at putting a grip over the Arab nation and preparing it for the domination of American imperialism.

The statement added that the campaign against Great Jamahiriyah and its revolutionary leadership which rejects the domination and capitulation comes as a result of the principled and solid stances of the Great al-Fatih Revolution which advocate the Arab right and the categoric rejection for the liquidation of the Palestinian cause and stomaching the national rights of the Arab Palestinian people and its stand against the American imperialist strategies.

The participants in the meetings expressed their support and solidarity with Great Jamahiriyah against the oppressive colonialist campaign.

Mauritania

Arrested Opposition Members To Be Tried

LD0202160792 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] In Mauritania, the 32 people arrested after last Sunday's incidents in Nouadhibou have been questioned by the public prosecutor. Five of them were immediately released, among them the former mayor of Nouadhibou. The others, who were transferred to a civilian prison, are to be tried shortly for, I quote, incitement to violence. All those who are still jailed, like former Minister Yedali Ould Cheikh and Boubakar Messaoud, belong to the Mauritanian Democratic Forces Union [UFD]. Ghislaine Dupont asked UFD spokesman Bechir el-Hassen how he was interpreting this selection of those arrested:

[Begin recording] [El-Hassen] For the authorities, the UFD is the main, basic opposition component, the most dangerous component, so it is fully understandable that we should witness a selective repression against the UFD, which is now considered the most dangerous component of the opposition.

[Dupont] What will the UFD do now?

[El-Hassen] In accordance with its commitments to the nation, the UFD is determined to combat this authoritarian drift of the regime peacefully and nonviolently. It denounces the plot against freedom, it rejects the legitimacy of the institutions resulting from what I would call an electoral putsch, and it demands the immediate and unconditional release of its militants arrested in Nouadhibou and also, naturally, in the south of the country, in (Kaidi), Rosso, and everywhere. The national lawyers organization rallied. It sent a delegation to Nouadhibou to be on the spot to ensure the defense of the militants arrested there following last Sunday's events. [end recording]

Nouakchott, Nouadhibou Curfew Hours Reduced

LD0202213592 Nouakchott ORTM Radio in Arabic 2030 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] The minister of interior, post, and telecommunications would like to inform the public that the curfew in the two cities of Nouakchott and Nouadhibou will be in effect from midnight [0000 GMT] to 0600 beginning this evening until further notice.

Parliamentary Election Nomination Period Extended

LD0202012292 Nouakchott ORTM Radio in Arabic 0000 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] On 6 March the country's first politically pluralistic parliamentary elections will be organized.

At a recent extraordinary session the Military Committee decided to extend the period for submitting nominations for these elections until midnight, 13 February.

Military Committee Names Adviser

LD0202011192 Nouakchott ORTM Radio in Arabic 0000 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] The Presidency of the Military Committee for National Salvation, MCNS, has announced that according to a declaration issued today, Mr. Mohamed Lamine Mohamed Val has been appointed an adviser to the MCNS.

'Armed Clash' Among Republican Guards Reported

NC3101163692 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1610 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Text] An armed clash broke out among Republican Guard personnel near the Presidential Palace in Baghdad on 24 January. The clash occurred after an officer expressed an opinion opposing the regime's policy.

Further on 'Special Force' To Protect Saddam

NC0202172292 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1612 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] In yesterday's issue the newspaper SAWT AL-KUWAYT published a report entitled "A Special Force To Protect Saddam Husayn." The report said:

Western political sources affirmed yesterday that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn recently formed a special division [firqah] to protect him against assassination or coup attempts.

These sources said that this force, which has been drawn from Republican Guard units, consists of 13 battalions, each of which is made up of 400 to 500 men. The sources noted that all the personnel of this force are known for their allegiance to Saddam Husayn and that most of them hail from Saddam's birthplace, Tikrit.

The Western sources said that the special force has been deployed in some specific official centers to protect them. The force is commanded by 'Udayy [as heard], the son of Saddam Husayn.

The same sources affirmed that this force underwent rigorous training before being formed. It specializes in house-to-house warfare and in providing protection to individuals and institutions.

Citing responsible Iraqi sources, these sources said that fear for the fate of Saddam Husayn has increased recently, especially following the escalated military operations that are being carried out by the opposition forces in Iraq.

SAIRI Head Says Saddam Losing Grip on Power

NC0302111492 Paris AFP in English 1053 GMT 3 Feb 92

[By Jean-Michel Cadiot]

[Text] Tehran, Feb 3 (AFP)—Iraqi President Saddam Husayn is losing his grip on power, notably within the ruling Ba'th Party, and his opponents in exile are planning a new conference later this month, a prominent opposition figure said here Monday.

Ayatollah Muhammad Baqir al-Hakim, head of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SAIRI), told AFP: "There have been many defections from the Ba'th Party and Saddam, despite seven attempts, has been unable to organize elections within the party."

"We can't negotiate with the Ba'th dissidents, who could be shot, but we want them to know that we harbor no feelings of revenge against them. The regime does not control the north, which is in the hands of the Kurds, and there has been a surge in resistance both in the (Shiite) south and in the center—including Baghdad—where the army only appears to be in charge."

Al-Hakim charged that "the Saddam regime is only holding on because of its well-known repressive methods and massive killing."

The opposition in exile, which gathered in Damascus last December, "overcame major psychological hurdles and we all have a clearer general vision of things," he said, adding that another conference could take place "from the end of February," either in Syria or Saudi Arabia.

The ayatollah in the past has criticized Kurdish parties for having agreed to negotiate with the Baghdad government on autonomy for Iraqi Kurdistan. "There are certainly differences within the opposition but I expect an improvement in our relations. The Kurds are suffering from a food blockade and their talks with Baghdad have stopped. They can no longer see any future in talking to the government."

In the south, according to Ayatollah al-Hakim, "hundreds of thousands of Iraqis ... are encircled by the army in the marshes," with fighting reported this week between dissidents and troops near the city of al-Amarah.

In the Shiite holy cities of Najaf and Karbala, he charged, the army frequently violates the sacred shrines while keeping 95-year-old 'Abolqasem Kho'i, Iraq's principal Shiite figure, under house arrest in al-Kufah. "People are afraid to visit him," said al-Hakim.

Kurdish Talks Suspended Due To Economic Blockade

NC0102131392 Paris AFP in English 1229 GMT 1 Feb 92

[By Antoine Lazerges]

[Text] Salah ad Din, Iraq, Feb 1 (AFP)—The Iraqi Government must lift a three-month economic "blockade" on northern Iraq before talks on Kurdish autonomy can resume, Kurdish leader Mas'ud Barzani has warned in an interview with AFP. Negotiations with Baghdad are suspended because of the "economic blockade" but the talks have not ended, Barzani, Democratic Party of Kurdistan (DPK) leader, said at his headquarters here in northern Iraq.

The mountain camp, partially isolated by snow, lies 60 km (36 miles) from Iraqi lines. Barzani said the Kurdistan Front, a coalition of eight opposition parties, decided last week to no longer send delegates to Baghdad

to negotiate autonomy as long as Iraqi authorities maintain the "blockade." Baghdad denies a blockade exists.

International observers in Kurdish controlled-areas of northern Iraq say there have been shortages of gasoline and oil and sharp food price rises since Iraqi soldiers in October prevented most goods from passing checkpoints. Barzani repeated the front's determination to "resolve peacefully" the issue for "autonomy within the limits of Iraq's borders for which all parties of the front agree." Such autonomy should be "practical, realistic, applicable and not directed in a way that scares our neighbors," he said. Turkey, Syria, and Iran all have Kurdish minorities.

Negotiations over an unimplemented 1970 autonomy accord with Baghdad resumed after the Kurdish uprising failed last March, but foundered amid tension in October. Barzani said Baghdad had accepted two of the four points in a Kurdish plan.

One point called for a timetable for allowing Iraqi Government employees and the Army to return to northern Iraq. The other called for "an autonomy law" which is broader and more precise than a previous unimplemented one.

But both sides are still debating the issue of democracy and the borders of an autonomous Kurdistan where the Kurds claim Karkuk and its oil fields, he said. Tension meanwhile persists between the two sides.

Kurdish guerrillas reportedly shoot at vehicles that fail to stop at checkpoints and whose occupants are suspected of belonging to the Iraqi secret police. The Kurdish-controlled city of Kifri, between al-Sulaymaniyah and Baghdad, is frequently under fire from Iraqi artillery just outside the city, humanitarian workers said.

Autonomy talks stopped in October after Baghdad accused the Kurds of failing to ensure the safety of their employees in the north. Ensuing tension prompted some 200,000 Kurds to flee to highland areas, humanitarian workers said. At the same time Iraqi troops at checkpoints prevented the passage of trucks carrying goods—a move Baghdad says is to ensure the drivers' safety while the Kurds describe it as a blockade. Talks to settle the dispute over the "blockade," which started on December 25 amid an easing of tension, broke up early this year with the Kurds reportedly dissatisfied with the terms to end the trouble.

Article Traces 'Udayy Husayn's Flying Career

JN2801195692 [Editorial Report]

[Editorial report] The Baghdad weekly AL-RAFIDAYN in Arabic on 18 January prints on pages 2, 3, 4, and 5 an approximately 1,200-word featured article with color pictures about 'Udayy Saddam Husayn. Two pictures take up the second page, the first showing 'Udayy dressed in Air Force gear and seated with a copilot in a helicopter and the second showing him standing in the same uniform among Air Force officers. The first picture is reprinted in a smaller size on the third page, and the fourth page is taken up by a photo of President Saddam Husayn in military dress flanked on his right by 'Udayy in civilian dress, his chest decked with recently awarded medals, and on his left by his younger son Qusayy, who is in uniform and also wears recently awarded medals.

The article traces the Air Force career of 'Udayy since his mid-teens, when he began training to fly a helicopter in the middle of 1980. 'Udayy is quoted as telling ALIF BA' three years later that his father Saddam had urged him to follow pursuits which might "build his character as a man, and so become a way of life for him." 'Udayy notes that from the start his father had encouraged him to take up flying as a kind of knighthood.

In the article, fighter pilot 'Abd-al-Hadi Muhammad 'Inad—who is said to have been a companion of 'Udayy since he began taking helicopter flying lessons—speaks in glowing terms about the personality traits of Saddam's elder son. 'Inad maintains that early on in his training " 'Udayy showed an unusual faculty for the use of flying systems" and completed his first flight on 15 June 1980. He went on to train uninterruptedly on a (B.O-105) helicopter, completing a full course in June 1982. 'Udayy began combat training on the same plane in 1983 by practicing on the aiming and firing systems. On 17 June 1983 he completed the shooting course and practiced actual shooting on an armed (B.O-105) helicopter. Having mastered helicopter flight in 1982, he went on to practice flying a fixed-wing aircraft, and indeed flew a (B.C-7), a light pursuit plane.

'Inad recalls that 'Udayy carried out his first sortie on 25 June 1983 as part of a three-helicopter formation that hit Iranian concentrations in the 4th Corps sector. On another occasion, flying low over the periphery of the Majnun Islands, 'Udayy was said to have fired missiles at and killed a 25-man Iranian group of infiltrators.

According to 'Inad, 'Udayy has thus far logged 500 hours flying helicopters, not counting the hours he has flown other planes.

He concludes the article by describing 'Udayy as "enthusiastic and daring."

Shamir Said To Accept U.S. Terms on Guarantees

TA0302090892 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 3 Feb 92 p 1

[Report by Hemi Shalev]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has, in fact, accepted the U.S. proposal on loan guarantees for the absorption of immigrants, including the cessation of settlement, but he has instructed Ambassador Zalman Shoval to take action to increase the number of "housing starts" the completion of which will be permitted.

In consultations Shoval held in Jerusalem over the past few days, which will continue today at the Foreign Ministry, it was agreed that Israel will accept in principle the U.S. proposal that Israel may complete any construction that has been started already, but following that and for as long as it receives loan guarantees for the absorption of immigrants, it will build no more in the territories.

In Shoval's meeting with Secretary of State James Baker last week, the secretary brought up the nonbinding "example" of 9,000 buildings the construction of which has not been completed and which Israel will be able to complete without violating the terms of the guarantees. Jerusalem sources said last night that it is still unclear whether amounts disbursed for the "completion" of these housing starts will be deducted from the total amount of guarantees Israel has requested.

Shoval has been ordered to haggle with the Americans over the number of housing starts in a bid to increase it as much as possible. Shoval also has been asked to explore other ways of achieving an actual increase in the number of housing units Israel will be able to build, including a differentiation between government-owned and private land in the territories. The objective is to try to persuade the administration to exempt construction on private land from the terms of the guarantees.

Political sources in Jerusalem have stated that Shamir has agreed to the U.S. formula because the Likud is convinced that the guarantees will be a central issue in the election campaign and also in view of the expert opinion that, in any event, it is impossible to populate a greater number of housing units in the territories than the United States is ready to approve.

A considerable part of the negotiations Shoval will conduct with the administration upon his return to Washington will focus on the formulation of the Israeli commitments on this issue. The administration apparently has agreed that Israel will not have to state explicitly that it is stopping all settlement. Shoval also will discuss the establishment of a control mechanism that will oversee the outlay of the funds raised against the guarantees: another matter that has received Shamir's blessing.

The prime minister's bureau continues to assert that Shamir rejects any linkage between settlements and guarantees. In Jerusalem, the hope is that Israel and the United States will agree on a formula that will refer to the volume of construction Israel may pursue, without stating explicitly that this volume has been limited by the loan guarantees.

Rejects 'Political Enslavement'

TA0302123292 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1200 GMT 3 Feb 92

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] In a meeting with the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Prime Minister Shamir reiterated that the funds received as a result of the U.S. guarantees will not be used in the territories. At the same time, in answer to a question, he said that nobody can tell us how to use our money. The prime minister noted that, in his opinion, the guarantees are part of the U.S. aid to Israel and, in the past, this aid was not made conditional on political enslavement.

Shoval Clarifies Baker Compromise Plan

TA0202091692 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 2 Feb 92 p A5

[Report by Yerah Tal]

[Text] Zalman Shoval, Israel's ambassador to the United States, will advise U.S. Secretary of State James Baker in their next meeting that the Israeli Government will guarantee that funds obtained on the basis of the U.S. guarantees will not be used for construction in settlements. All the funds will be designated for the absorption of immigrants within the Green Line.

The instruction to advise the Americans of the Israeli commitment was communicated to Ambassador Shoval during his weekend meetings with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Foreign Minister David Levi, and Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i. In anticipation of his impending meeting with Secretary of State Baker, Shoval arrived in Israel on Friday for consultations on the subject of the U.S. guarantees.

Ambassador Shoval also has met and discussed the issue with Construction and Housing Minister Ari'el Sharon, who updated him on the current volume of construction in the territories. It will be remembered that in their first meeting two weeks ago, Baker told Shoval that the U.S. Administration would agree to Israel's completing existing housing starts in the territories but that it demands a freeze on any additional planned housing starts.

Data originating at the Construction and Housing Ministry shows that the number of existing housing starts in the territories stands at about 9,000 apartments, the completion of which will allow the Jewish population in the territories to grow by some 40,000 to 50,000.

Ambassador Shoval said last night that Yitzhaq Shamir's remarks to bonds representatives in Jerusalem several days ago—that Israel will not use the guaranteed money for construction in the territories—"was well received in

the United States and will no doubt facilitate the Israeli-U.S. dialogue on the issue."

Ambassador Shoval added that the report that Baker had demanded a freeze on settlement during that meeting was inaccurate. "I will not say what Baker told me in a personal conversation, but I will refer you to Tom Friedman's report in THE NEW YORK TIMES, which says that the United States has not demanded that settlement be frozen as a condition for guarantees," he said.

Shoval noted that in the meeting, Baker reiterated "the U.S. commitment to assist Israel with the absorption of immigrants, although nothing has been finalized as yet with regard to the sum or the terms of the guarantees. Everything is still under negotiation, and nothing has been finalized," said the ambassador.

In Shoval's opinion, Israel and the United States will not differ greatly—if at all—on the amount of the guarantees. Shoval noted that one of the problems the Americans apparently will raise is the method of ascertaining that the guaranteed money is indeed not funneled to the territories.

One of the American demands is that Israel privatize government-owned companies, and on this Israel and the United States are in agreement, Shoval stressed. The only argument can refer to the reform's scope, pace, and timing.

Shoval was asked: "Which quotation of the prime minister's remarks will the Americans believe: that the guarantees will not be used for construction in the territories, or that Israel will build throughout Eretz Yisra'el?" He replied: "Ben-Gurion never ceded Israel's right to build all over the country, either. The Americans know perfectly well what political life in a democratic country is, and they are not perturbed about this or that kind of remark."

Advantage in Difficulty Overseeing Settlement

TA0302121292 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT (MAMON supplement) in Hebrew 3 Feb 92 p 1

[Report by Nehama Dowek; quotation marks as published]

[Text] "We should avoid coming to blows with the Americans over the guarantees issue. Since they are determined to link the guarantees and settlement issues, we should agree to the formula, proposed by Senator Patrick Leahy, according to which "each dollar invested in the territories will be deducted from the guarantees," Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i instructed Zalman Shoval, Israel's ambassador to the United States, who came to consult with him at Sheba Hospital last Friday.

The logic guiding the finance minister is that Israel stands to gain if the cost of the planned construction in the territories, estimated at about 1 billion shekels, is deducted from the guarantees, while the full aid required for the absorption of immigrants is received. The belief is that the Americans will be unable to trace every investment in the territories before new, visible construction appears. "They will have difficulty overseeing the situation, and we will profit from it," senior government officials said yesterday.

Likud Internal Election Dates Announced

TA0302094292 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0900 GMT 3 Feb 92

[Text] The leaders of the Likud camps, Ministers Levi, Arens, Sharon, and Nisim, this morning decided on the date of internal elections. Our correspondent Yo'el Nir reports it was decided that the Likud Central Committee will convene on 10 February at the Tel Aviv Mann Auditorium to endorse the proposed proceedings. The contest over the position of movement chairman and premier will take place on 20 February at the Tel Aviv fairgrounds. The candidates for the Knesset list will be elected on 27 February and on 1 and 2 March. A panel of 50 people will be selected on 27 February, while the ranking into 10-member groups will be done on 1 and 2 March. It has not yet been decided how these groups will be selected; this matter will be concluded in another meeting this week.

In answer to a question, Minister Ari'el Sharon said that the possibility that the prime minister and foreign minister will compete over the same ticket slot does not trouble him, although this is a theoretical possibility at this stage.

Arens, Levi To Vie for No. 2

TA3101083392 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Text] Foreign Minister David Levi has yet to announce his future steps in the Likud's internal elections. Defense Minister Moshe Arens has declared that he will run for the second place on the Likud Knesset list. Arens clarified that this time, as opposed to the previous elections, he has no intention of stepping aside in favor of Minister Levi. There are still three weeks to go, and the Likud's internal election campaign is heating up. Our party affairs correspondent Yaron Deqel reports:

The struggle between Moshe Arens and David Levi has a long and colorful history. It also has the potential to become the most interesting battle on the Israeli political scene in the near future. The issue at stake is the two ministers' standing within the Likud. Among other factors, political status is also determined by the politician's ranking on the party's Knesset list. David Levi demands to be recognized as Yitzhaq Shamir's No. 2 man in the next elections. Levi's close associates have proposed that Nos. 1 and 2 on the party list be chosen together, while the rest of the Knesset list only be elected afterward. If that is the case, the No. 2 position will assume great significance if Yitzhaq Shamir decides to resign in the

middle of his next term in office. Shamir is aware of this and, therefore, will not agree that the No. 2 position be chosen in conjunction with him. He also refused to name Levi as acting prime minister in the current government, and the foreign minister was allocated a position equal to that of Moshe Nisim: deputy prime minister.

Levi's camp may agree to have the foreign minister chosen together with all the rest of the Knesset list, but have made it understood that Levi must be nominated for no less than the No. 2 position. Levi's camp has threatened that if the foreign minister's position is not guaranteed, he may run for party leadership.

It is unlikely that Shamir was impressed by this threat; the man who has made it categorically clear that he will stand in Levi's way, however, is Defense Minister Moshe Arens. Three years ago, Arens gave up his second place position in order to keep the peace within the Likud, and was later shunted to fourth place in the Herut Movement. Arens will not give in to Levi this time.

[Begin recording] [Deqel] Mr. Arens, there is a lot of tension prior to the internal elections. I would like to ask you whether this time, contrary to the previous elections, you will run for second place, or will you again step aside for the sake of party unity?

[Arens] I am all for party unity; I am not the type, however, to always give in. I will not give in. [end recording]

I will not give in, Arens declared, thus virtually announcing his candidacy for second place, after Yitzhaq Shamir, on the Likud list for the Knesset.

Shamir Not To Pressure Arens

TA0202124192 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1100 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] Prime Minister Shamir will not ask Defense Minister Moshe Arens to change his decision to contend for head of the Likud list. This is reported by sources close to the prime minister. In the last elections, Shamir asked Arens to give up the second spot on the list to David Levi. There are expectations in the Likud that Levi will submit his candidacy against Shamir and Ari'el Sharon for leadership of the party. Levi supporters have called a meeting this evening to decide their next move.

The bill to dissolve the Knesset, Israel's parliament, is expected to be passed tomorrow, making early elections official. On the same day, the chairman of the Knesset House Committee will convene the committee in order to implement the legislation. The Likud and Labor parties both intend campaigning hard to register new voters among immigrants and youngsters who will be 18 by election day. This will add another 200,000 voters to the electorate.

Levi Terms Arens Stand 'Ridiculous'

TA0202202292 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1900 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Excerpt] Minister David Levi announced this evening that he will compete for his position in the Likud's leadership and will not agree to any deal unless it is reached in a democratic competition. Speaking to his followers, Minister Levi said that he will announce the position he wants to compete for after consulting with his associates. Our party affairs correspondent Hanan 'Azran reports from the gathering of Levi's followers at the Daniel Tower Hotel in Herzliya:

Here is the answer to the question many people—at least in the Likud—were wondering about: David Levi will run. He picked up the gauntlet, but did not announce when and for what position he will be running. Playing for time henceforth will be the name of the game in internal Likud politics. Speaking to his followers tonight, Levi explained the reasons for his decision not to make a decision and to abstain from taking a clear position.

Levi mocked Minister Moshe Arens, terming as ridiculous and sensational, Arens' thick hint last Friday that this time he will not agree to give up. [passage omitted]

Levi Claims Baker Assurances on Palestinians

TA0202183992 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1800 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] Foreign Minister David Levi told the cabinet today he made clear at the Moscow multilateral talks that Israel will not budge in its refusal to sit down with Palestinians from the diaspora at any talks. Levi reviewed his trips to both China and Russia, as the future of the bilateral talks and the U.S. loan guarantees loomed in the background. David Ze'ev reports:

Foreign Minister David Levi was back in Jerusalem this morning to review the accomplishments of his recent travel: establishing diplomatic relations with China, reaching agreement to do the same with India—which he says will be implemented in the coming weeks—and attending the Moscow multilateral talks.

Despite indications to the contrary, the foreign minister said that U.S. Secretary of State James Baker told him in Moscow that Israel will not be forced to sit down with anyone it does not wish to do so. Levi said Israel will not budge from its position that Palestinians from the diaspora are ineligible to participate in any talks. The reference was to Palestinian claims that Baker told them such representatives would be acceptable when the regional talks on various issues break down into working groups. Levi says he told Baker and the Russian foreign minister that without Israel's consent there will be nothing. The Israeli foreign minister said he stressed the importance of standing by previous agreements—the reference here to what has become known as the Madrid formula.

where neither East Jerusalemites nor those from outside the territories were allowed to participate at this past October's peace conference.

With the Moscow conference just completed, the focus is returning to the bilateral peace talks that were adjourned last month in Washington. Cabinet Secretary Elyaqim Rubinstein, who has been heading the talks with the Palestinians and Jordanians, confirmed today that he has been in contact by phone with chief Palestinian negotiator Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi. Israel's position remains that it opposes bringing the talks to Washington for what would be the third time, but at the Foreign Ministry today there was talk that that is where the next round of talks will take place, some time later this month.

Israel's Ambassador to the United States Zalman Shoval, meanwhile, is flying back to Washington and is expected to meet with Secretary of State Baker after consultations in Jerusalem concerning a deal on the U.S. loan guarantees to help the Israeli economy.

Cabinet Members on Habash; Levi Discusses Trip

TA0202123392 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1100 GMT 2 Feb 91

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The cabinet defended Prime Minister Shamir's decision not to try to extradite George Habash. David Ze'ev reports:

In Israel's Foreign Ministry there was a move to start extradition proceedings, but Prime Minister Shamir seemed to downplay the affair. The issue was not on the cabinet's agenda this morning, but ministers were asked about it at length by reporters outside the Prime Minister's Office, and all defended a less aggressive stand by Israel. Ministers Ehud Olmert, Avner Sciaki, and Gid'on Pat:

[Begin recording] [Olmert] We did not think that at a time when it was first exposed we should say more than what was said within France anyway. We are so busy with so many problems.

[Sciaki] We are now in peace talks, and we now preparing for elections, and there are so many economic problems. We don't have the time to deal with such an archterrorist. I think God is treating him the way he deserves.

[Pat] First of all, I am not sure we would have been successful in putting such a demand to the French Government, and why try to do something that you might not be successful in the results? But I think that the Foreign Ministry handled the situation right, and in one way or another, the whole international debate, and the debate within the French community started because of what we had to say about this doing. [end recording]

One of the central issues on the cabinet agenda this morning was the Arab economic boycott against Israel. Economics Minister David Magen accused the U.S. Government of lowering its profile in the fight against the boycott, and Israel, he said, should respond by coming out of the sealed room, in Minister Magen's words, to establish a national information center to monitor the boycott, but deliberation on that will continue next week.

After the cabinet meeting, Foreign Minister David Levi sat down with Prime Minister Shamir for their weekly political discussion. The foreign minister reviewed before the cabinet his trips to China and Russia.

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1100 GMT on 2 February adds in a report by Arye Golan that "Foreign Minister Levi heard in the cabinet meeting a lot of praise from his colleagues after reporting on his trips to Beijing and Moscow, the multilateral conference, the establishment of relations with China, and his talks with counterparts from various countries. He was congratulated by Ministers Meridor, Magen, Olmert, and Sciaki. Prime Minister Shamir summed up: There were important achievements, excellent work was done, Israel was represented at the best possible level, but the matter is not yet over; we have not yet reached a state of rest and security."]

The preelection infighting in the Likud was thought to be an issue that would come up in the Shamir-Levi meeting.

Shamir on Habash 'Misunderstanding,' Other Issues

PM0302115692 Paris LE FIGARO in French 1-2 Feb 92 p 2

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Pierre Rousselin in Jerusalem; date not given]

[Text] Jerusalem—[Rousselin] What was your reaction when you learned that George Habash had been allowed to seek medical help in France?

[Shamir] I do not want to make it a personal issue. George Habash is a sick man, physically sick I mean. He does not like us much. I think that the French will find a solution to this misunderstanding. It is not an important problem. Let us leave it at that.

[Rousselin] Immediately after the multilateral conference in Moscow, you said that the Arab countries were divided and that peace did not interest them. Is that really your analysis at this stage in the negotiations?

[Shamir] The fact that the Arab world is divided is well known, it is nothing new. I spoke about several tendencies within the Arab world and I hope that the most positive tendencies will prevail. We are involved in a peace process which is continuing despite the problems. We are trying to overcome them and we hope that we will make progress in the two current negotiations—bilateral and multilateral. They are equally important.

[Rousselin] Israel is entering an election campaign which will last until the end of June. The Americans will then plunge into the race for the White House. Will the peace process not be put on the back burner for almost a year?

[Shamir] We are determined to continue. We will not halt the peace process because of election campaigns. That could be an excellent excuse to interrupt the negotiations, but we are not seeking an excuse. We want the process to continue and we will do all we can to overcome the obstacles. The election campaign in Israel could be an obstacle, but, once again, we will do everything necessary to promote the search for peace.

[Rousselin] Two extreme right-wing parties left your government when you started to discuss autonomy for the occupied territories with the Americans. When the preliminary talks resume, does this departure by the extreme right mean that you will have more room to maneuver in putting forward your proposals?

[Shamir] It is not a question of having a free hand. We stand by the pledges we made at Camp David 13 years ago. Our refusal to give in to the parties which abandoned us clearly shows that we do not intend to go back on our pledges for internal political reasons. The fact that we have lost our majority in the Knesset because of our loyalty to the peace process is proof of our determination.

[Rousselin] Will you put forward your autonomy plan when the next stage starts?

[Shamir] We are preparing to resume preliminary talks. In the next negotiating session, we will discuss autonomy and other subjects. With the Palestinians, but also with Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria.

[Rousselin] Have you reached an agreement on the location of the next meeting?

[Shamir] Not yet. There are still disagreements. The Americans are very worried about it. We prefer it to be in the region or in a neighboring country. It is a problem for us to go as far as Washington each time. We want to establish closer ties among the negotiators and those who have to make the decisions. That cannot be done by telephone or telex. It is very important to maintain personal contact between the negotiators and the decisionmakers. This gives the decisionmakers a better understanding of the motives of the interlocutor. Negotiations in the region would be much more productive.

[Rousselin] You have been talking with Palestinian representatives from the occupied territories for three months. What is your opinion of them?

[Shamir] It is too soon to draw conclusions. We must await the result of the first stages in the negotiations. They are the representatives of the local population and we must talk with them. They are not experienced people, that is obvious. They are much better at propaganda than negotiation. In any event, I find it regrettable that they reject personal contact with Israelis, because that would make the discussions easier. We would like to have meetings between the official sessions. But the Palestinians and the other Arab delegations refuse any contact with us outside the formal sessions. That is a problem. In all such conferences, the discussions behind the scenes are very useful. I do not understand why those people refuse that. It is stupid!

[Rousselin] Discussions have just been resumed with the United States on granting Israel banking guarantees to help the integration of immigrants from the former USSR. In view of the fact that Washington criticizes the continuation of Israeli settlements in the occupied territories, would you be prepared to accept a new U.S. proposal—to limit construction in the colonies to the dwellings on which work has already begun?

[Shamir] We are only at the start of discussions with the U.S. Government to establish a joint approach. Ideas have been put forward. They must be discussed. Our principled stance is clear. There must be no link between humanitarian aid for the new immigrants and the political questions on which we have different viewpoints. We have always had differences of opinion with the U.S. Government. But they have never been linked to the aid supplied by Washington. This is the first time that there have been attempts to do so.

I have stated very clearly that we do not intend to use this money to build settlements. For those in the United States who are not very pleased to see us building settlements, this answer must suffice. We have promised that we would not send the new immigrants to the disputed territories, and we have kept our promise. There are very few Soviet immigrants in those territories.

The United States is entitled to ask us not to spend the money it gives us for things it does not accept. That is clear, and it is right. There is no problem about that.

[Rousselin] There are so many dwellings under construction in the settlements that many new houses are still empty. Would it not be justified to halt construction and complete the projects which have been started?

[Shamir] If some houses are empty, it is only temporary. They will all be occupied. Each house already belongs to a family. The problem is complex. On one hand, it is obvious that the U.S. aid interests us greatly. I would like to note, in passing, that this aid is not costing the U.S. taxpayer anything because they are simply guarantees for bank loans. But on the other hand, we cannot establish a link between those guarantees and the principles of our national policy.

The affair has been exaggerated. A few thousand more Israelis in these territories will not have an impact on the negotiations. In our view, any Jew and any Israeli has the right to live there. According to the Camp David agreements, there are sovereignty questions to be solved, but this has nothing to do with the right of people to settle where they wish. Many Jews live in Europe or the United States and that does not present any sovereignty problem.... Quite the reverse. We think that these settlements, by enabling us to increase contacts between the Arabs and Israelis, will encourage peaceful coexistence.

[Rousselin] The controversy over the settlements and the banking guarantees has created acute tension between Israel and the United States in recent months....

[Shamir] I greatly regret that. It is not justified. It is a very emotional issue, but I think that we will find some point of agreement.

[Rousselin] The integration of the new immigrants who have difficulty in finding a job will be the other major issue of the election campaign. However, the rate of arrivals from the former USSR has fallen to its lowest level for two years. Does this reduction not worry you?

[Shamir] It is natural that such a large-scale immigration movement should experience highs and lows. There are experts who attribute this slowing down to economic problems and to employment problems in Israel. But it is also clear that many candidates for emigration to Israel are waiting to see whether the situation in Russia improves. Some hope that, by waiting a few months, they will be able to sell their home and come to Israel with a little more money. Most of the immigrants arrive without a cent. It is logical for them to wait. I know from experience that it is never easy to leave the place where you were born for a new life in a foreign country.

[Rousselin] Are you not afraid that immigration will be jeopardized by the country's economic problems?

[Shamir] Absorbing 400,000 people in two years for a country which has between 4 and 5 million inhabitants is an impossible task. Much bigger countries than ours could not do it. For Israel it is different. We have no choice: We must do it at all costs. But a normal country could not do it.

[Rousselin] These difficulties will probably be your main problem in the election campaign....

[Shamir] Certainly. It will be a problem. But we will have to explain our position and everybody will understand. It is already a great success to have succeeded in absorbing a large proportion of these immigrants.

[Rousselin] What do you think is the importance of these elections?

[Shamir] All elections are important. But during the campaign you will hear people say that these are the most important elections in the country's history. Each time it is the same thing. The election this year is important because we are faced with two exceptional problems: first, the peace process—for the first time in our history we are having direct talks with our Arab neighbors, and we will have to find a solution to the conflict; second, the problem of this mass immigration. We must find a way of absorbing it. It is a monumental, historic problem.

[Rousselin] You are approaching the election campaign with promises of peace. At the same time, you say that you will keep the territories and will absorb the immigrants. Is that not promising too much?

[Shamir] We want peace, but we want it on acceptable terms. We want this peace to guarantee our future and security. It is very easy to promise solutions at the price of concessions. But no Israeli is very enthusiastic about making concessions.

[Rousselin] What is your priority: immigration or the maintenance of Greater Israel?

[Shamir] Both. We need a land for a people. We have no choice. We must find a synthesis. From the start our national liberation movement was different from any other. In all the other countries, there was an aspiration to independence. In our case, we had to bring the population here and then give them independence. That is much more difficult and many people thought we would not succeed. It is a miracle that we did. And it is not over.

[Rousselin] Do you think that the tensions between Jerusalem and Washington are the result of the end of the cold war, and that the time has come for Israel to shift the balance of its diplomacy to other regions of the world, particularly Europe?

[Shamir] Nothing is forever in politics, but our friendship with the United States is very strong. So, even if there is friction and disagreement from time to time, I am convinced that the foundations of that friendship are unshakable. This conviction is shared by many Americans.

[Rousselin] The breakup of the Soviet Union has revived the risks of nuclear proliferation. What can Israel do to prevent thousands of Russian scientists from going to help countries acquire the nuclear bomb?

[Shamir] That is a general worry. Everybody is worried. We are trying to face the problem in cooperation with our allies, but it is too soon to announce results. It is a long-term problem and we are working on it.

[Rousselin] How do you view your own future? Do you see yourself sitting in this office for a long time to come?

[Shamir] I am trying to do my best. I think that I can still be useful and serve my objectives—not personal objectives, but national ones. As long as my party or my people ask me to continue, I will do so. But this is not a personal ambition.

Palestinian Delegation Returns From Moscow

TA0302122692 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 3 Feb 92

[Text] The Palestinian delegation to the Moscow talks returned to the territories yesterday. Faysal al-Husayni, head of the delegation, said that he feels that the Palestinians scored a significant accomplishment in Moscow. Our correspondent in the territories Udi Segal reports from the news conference held by the Palestinian delegation:

[Begin recording] [Segal] If, in Madrid, we Palestinians were the predominant force inside the conference room,

then in Moscow we were the most powerful force outside the hall. This was how Faysal al-Husayni summed up the round of multilateral talks in which the Palestinian delegation did not participate. The delegates expressed their satisfaction. They feel that they stood up to an Israeli dictate. They also received widespread support, at least inside the territories.

During the news conference, Sa'ib 'Urayqat said that Israel tried to blackmail the world with its dictates, but the Palestinians made it clear that they would no longer accept such actions. Al-Husayni claimed that the international community respects the Palestinians for their decision not to take part in the talks.

[Al-Husayni] Yes, we believe that we did the right thing. We have proved this. I know and understand that everyone understood our point and that things will change in the future.

[Segal] Hanan 'Ashrawi said that the talks in Moscow proved to everyone that the Palestinians are the main issue in the peace process. She said: We have clarified that we are committed to the overall process but will not accept continued Israeli dictates.

Sa'ib 'Urayqat said that the lesson of the Moscow talks is that more efforts should be put into coordination among the Arabs. At any rate, he asserted, a clear message was issued that no progress can be made in the multilateral talks without parallel progress in the bilateral negotiations.

We will not accept any other party's determining the identity of the Palestinian delegates. The question of who is a Palestinian is not an issue in the talks, 'Ashrawi clarified. [end recording]

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1200 GMT on 3 February adds that "the members of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks said that in the next round of bilateral talks in Washington, they will demand a cessation of settlements at the beginning of the deliberations." "Faysal al-Husayni told correspondents that there is an understanding with the U.S. secretary of state and Russian foreign minister on the composition of the Palestinian delegation to the continuation of the multilateral talks."]

Poll Shows Majority for Territorial Compromise

TA0302113492 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 3 Feb 92 p 5

[Report by Hana Kim]

[Text] A poll conducted by Dr. Mina Tzemah for the International Peace Center shows that 82 percent of the Israeli public favor promoting the peace process. Approximately 61 percent are ready to achieve a peace agreement on the basis of security arrangements in exchange for the return of most of the territory of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza Strip, and only 18 percent claim to support annexing the territories. The poll was conducted among a sample of 1,100 Jews; it did not include moshavim, kibbutzim, and the ultra-Orthodox community.

The poll further reveals that 40 percent of the interviewees believe autonomy is a necessary interim solution toward a permanent solution to be based on returning the territories in exchange for security arrangements. Asked "Will you be better off after a peace treaty?" 62 percent replied in the affirmative, while 30 percent thought that "the present situation is better for me." The rest abstained. Some 46 percent of the respondents said they consider peace the key issue on the national agenda. About 11 percent said they consider unemployment the key issue, while 9 percent said the key issue is concern for the individual.

Binyamin Yas'ur, International Peace Center director, said that in comparison with previous polls conducted by the center, the latest poll shows an obvious moderate trend and a significant rise in the popular desire for peace. The poll's findings, along with a note saying that public aspirations should be heeded, were sent yesterday to Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

Some 70 percent of female immigrants from the former USSR are against the establishment of a "Russian party" for the next elections, and some 72 percent of these women are basically opposed to the establishment of a womens party. These are the findings of a poll conducted by PORTRET, a Russian-language monthly appearing in Israel.

Space Agency Heads Brief on Ofeq-3 Satellite

TA0202122192 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 2 Feb 92 p 3

[Text] A pool report published in last week's issue of SPACE NEWS stated that the Ofeq-3 satellite is more sophisticated than its predecessor, Ofeq-2, and that its three-dimensional stabilizing unit will enable it to set an accurate track. Both Ofeq-1 and Ofeq-2 were equipped with rotary stabilizing units and therefore had only one track.

Israel Space Agency Chairman Yuval Ne'eman has said that with Ofeq-3, Israel is coming close to having an operational satellite capable of carrying equipment capable of conducting experiments.

Ofeq-3 will have an improved capability for survival in space, and will be used to test a variety of space steering and piloting systems, said Professor 'Aqiva Bar-Nun, Space Agency director. Ofeq-3 will be capable of stabilizing its track in space for many months, he said.

As preparations for the satellite launch were being conducted, a suggestion was put forward to mount on the satellite an X-ray telescope developed by the Israel Institute of Technology and an ultraviolet telescope called Taubex [name as published] proposed by the Tel Aviv University space team. The ultraviolet telescope

was given priority, while the plan to mount an X-ray telescope was temporarily rejected because of a cash shortage.

It was stated that the Israel Space Agency is attempting to find partners for the plan to equip Ofeq-3 with the telescope developed by the Israel Institute of Technology.

It was further stated that Israel, together with the U.S. space agency and European elements, has developed laser equipment enabling accurate measuring of up to 20 mm, as well as gauging the rate at which Israel, which is situated on the African continental shelf, separates from Asia.

Israel Space Agency officials have also reported that the Israel Aircraft Industries and various European companies have developed a satellite communication system named 'Amos, which Israel would like to market commercially.

Diplomat Visits Vietnam; Medical Aid to Cambodia

TA0202124792 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1200 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] A diplomat based at the Israeli Embassy in Bangkok visited Vietnam a few days ago in the first visit of its kind. Our correspondent reports that the visit was termed private, although the Israeli diplomat met with officials in the Vietnamese Government. Our correspondent also reports that medical aid will be sent to Cambodia soon, and an Israeli diplomat might leave with aid for Phnom Penh.

Breakthrough in Vietnamese Ties Denied

TA0302092192 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 3 Feb 92 p 1

[Report by Hemi Shalev]

[Excerpt] Israel will consult the United States before deciding on diplomatic ties with Vietnam, Foreign Ministry sources said last night. The sources denied yesterday's media reports about a breakthrough in ties between the two countries.

In an unusual move, the Foreign Ministry spokesman's bureau stated that yesterday's report on Qol Yisra'el about an Israeli diplomat's talks in Hanoi are inaccurate.

It was stated that diplomat Noah Handler made a private visit to Hanoi about a month ago and that this was not the first visit of this kind.

Political sources in Jerusalem said that Israel has received no clear signals from Vietnam about a desire to establish ties with Israel, although, in view of the Chinese and Indian decisions to establish relations with Israel, a reassessment in Hanoi should not be ruled out.

The sources stated that secret contacts between Vietnamese representatives and Israeli ambassadors have been held for years in different world capitals and that Vietnam received an unofficial trade delegation from Israel several months ago.

In any event, the sources pointed out that in view of the U.S. boycott of Vietnam and its ongoing struggle to find clues about servicemen missing since the Vietnam war, Israel will attribute great weight to the U.S. position before deciding on the establishment of relations with Vietnam. [passage omitted]

Political Parties Deplore Habash Detention

JN0102091592 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 1 Feb 92 p 1

[Text] Amman (J.T.)—Jordanian political parties and professional associations Friday strongly deplored the French government's detention of George Habash describing it as a "campaign against the Palestinian national rights."

In a statement issued following a solidarity meeting held at the Professional Association Complex Friday evening, the parties and associations accused the French government of succumbing to Zionist pressure.

They said that the detention would undermine the friendship between the Arab World and France and that they hold the French government responsible for the well-being of Dr. Habash.

King Husayn Leaves Hospital in 'Good Health'

JN0202123292 Amman Radio Jordan in English 1200 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] His majesty the king left the Husayn Medical Center today after undergoing a minor surgery on his right leg. Many Jordanians gathered at the Husayn Medical Center to express their joy and happiness over his majesty's discharge from hospital enjoying good health.

U.S. Pressure on Israel in Peace Talks Urged

JN0102110492 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 1 Feb 92 pp 1, 13

[Editorial: "The Peace Process and the Required U.S. Position"]

[Text] Following the Madrid conference, the Washington talks, and the Moscow conference, is Israel now convinced of the need to acknowledge all resolutions of international legitimacy and the principle of withdrawal from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories?

So far Shamir's government is not even convinced about halting settlements. On the contrary, it insists on continuing to build settlements in the occupied territories under all circumstances.

Inaugurating a new settlement in the West Bank, Shamir declared that no power on earth can stop Israel from continuing its settlement program and that the West Bank, Gaza, and the Golan Heights are all Israeli territory on which settlements to house Russian Jews will be built.

When the Arab parties, including the Palestinians, accepted President Bush's invitation to attend the peace conference, they did so because the invitation was based on the resolutions of international legitimacy and the principle of land for peace.

But, instead of demonstrating good intentions and a readiness to withdraw from the occupied territories, Israel showed more enthusiasm for building additional settlements in defiance of the international community and in disregard of international resolutions.

It is clear that during the round of talks in Washington, Israel sought to make the Arab parties believe that the peace desired by the Arabs and the Palestinians cannot be achieved and that, at best, they have to accept the Israeli peace.

Thus, we can understand the reasons behind the Syrian, Lebanese, and Palestinian boycott of the Moscow conference.

The PLO has announced that it is prepared to sign a peace treaty with Israel if it withdraws from the occupied Palestinian territories. Damascus and Beirut also have a similar position.

Despite its optimism about the possibility of a successful end to the peace process, especially in view of the many gains which the Arab cause achieved in Madrid, Washington, and Moscow, Jordan is very worried about the lack of seriousness on the part of the United States to apply pressure on Israel to make it abide by international legitimacy or to halt settlements. At any rate, it is unacceptable for the U.S. Administration and the UN Security Council permanent member states to force Iraq, Libya, and others to abide by the resolutions of international legitimacy, even through the use of force, while at the same time allowing Israel to disregard all international resolutions, laws, and charters.

This U.S. slackness toward Israel causes the Arab parties to fear that the United States will continue its bias toward Israel. This slackness also encourages Israel to continue its expansionist policy and adhere to its designs against Arab lands, water, and resources.

If the Bush Administration wants to see a truly successful end to the peace process, then it should resort to all ways and means that will force Israel to withdraw from the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories. Otherwise, the region will not see peace, stability, or security for a long time to come.

DFLP Head Feted by JANDA; Meets Bin-Shakir

JN0102092492 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 1 Feb 92 p 22

[Text] Amman—The Jordanian Arab National Democratic Alliance, JANDA, hosted a dinner banquet yesterday in honor of Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], and his accompanying delegation. The banquet was attended by members of the JANDA Executive Bureau and JANDA members in the House of Representatives.

The banquet was preceded by a serious and responsible discussion about the peace process and the role played by

popular movements in directing the negotiations in a manner harmonious with international legitimacy and its resolutions.

During his working visit to Jordan, Hawatimah has met with Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir and a number of Jordanian and Palestinian political and parliamentary figures and forces.

Editorial Questions Effectiveness of UN Summit

JN0102124092 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 1 Feb 92 pp 1, 13

[Editorial: "The New York Summit Resolutions in Theory and Practice"]

[Text] Under the slogan of reaffirming the principal role of the United Nations, and particularly that of the Security Council, in restoring and maintaining world peace and security, the UN Security Council summit convened yesterday with the five permanent members and the other rotating members of the Council in attendance.

This unique summit presents bright ideas and proposals to confront threats against world peace and stability and to open the horizons for a new world order that will protect the international community against the tendencies of extremism, aggression, and human rights violations.

We do not question the nature of the ideas and proposals presented to the summit. We consider them to be positive and good. However, we believe that there is a great gap between theory and practice, between resolutions and their application, and between dreams and reality.

Confronting threats to world peace and security can only be done through the United Nations and its Security Council and through the resolutions of that Council, resolutions which constitute the mechanism to apply international legitimacy to all issues that threaten world peace and security. The ideas now being presented at the UN Security Council summit do not depart from the international political framework drawn up by the UN Charter and principles. However, the dual perspectives through which these principles have been viewed are the reason that the United Nations is losing its effective role and becoming a captive to the policies, interests, and tendencies of the major powers.

Therefore, the role of the United Nations and the Security Council must be respected and underscored all the time. What is also required is to stress the need to apply the resolutions of the United Nations and the Security Council and not only to issue such resolutions.

Now that the leaders of the major powers and the UN Security Council member states have met in New York to make decisions and to formulate resolutions, we have the right to wonder why the United Nations was not given the role it should be given in the peace process and the settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Why is the Middle East peace process being kept outside the framework of the United Nations and international legitimacy? Why is there no mechanism to apply the Security Council resolutions, particularly Resolutions 242 and 338, in the face of the Israeli refusal to submit to the Council resolutions and to respond to the UN Charter and principles? Why is international legitimacy applied against an Arab party or parties, against whom consecutive UN resolutions are issued, and why are troops and world public opinion mobilized against these parties to implement these resolutions with all severity, while, at the same time, resolutions on Israel and its practices against the United Nations, world public opinion, and international legitimacy are ignored?

It is good for the Security Council summit to formulate a plan to control the international and regional arms race. But what is even better and more positive is to remove weapons, particularly those of mass destruction, from the countries that possess them through resolutions that can be applied and that are not used as mere slogans, slogans that are raised against certain countries and not against others, such as Israel, which keeps a huge arsenal of the weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East.

In order to evade crises, the international community should resolve the issues concerning peace and security through practical measures to implement the UN Security Council resolutions. Consequently, the United Nations and the Security Council can regain their effective role in preserving peace and security for all nations on earth.

Such a process is not limited to the UN Security Council member states or to those states which view the UN role through two different perspectives and according to various standards. The international community has something to say in this regard. What is going on in the UN Security Council is no more than an attempt to formulate policies to run the world's affairs for the benefit of a group of countries that now controls the fate of the world in political, economic, and military terms.

Implementation is what matters, not slogans. World peace and security are not subjects for bargaining in a world market in which there are pirates, aggressors, and violators of human rights, international norms, UN resolutions, and international legitimacy.

Foreign Minister Interviewed on Moscow Talks

PM3101144592 London AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI in Arabic 28 Jan 92 p 4

[Interview with Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz by Mahmud Ma'ruf in Marrakech, Morocco; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Ma'ruf] You are definitely not going to Moscow?

[Buwayz] Yes, for several reasons. First, we see the multilateral negotiations as an application of peace, yet that peace is neither clear nor assured at this moment. Second, the multilateral talks are about a regional order which could be implemented once peace is established, and may be a price paid to Israel. We cannot pay the price before knowing the kind and size of the Israeli commitments, if we are really going to get such commitments.

Technically, how could a negotiator in the multilateral talks sit and talk with the others without any progress being made in the bilateral negotiations? [passage omitted]

[Ma'ruf] What do you have to say about the Arab parties that are going to Moscow?

[Buwayz] Quite clearly, the primary decision on the matter should be up to the ring states, or the frontline states, or the states directly adjacent [to Israel], if we are going to have real peace. In the absence of Lebanon, Syria, and, maybe, the Palestinians, what peace will be discussed in Moscow? A peace between Japan and Algeria or between the European states and Morocco?

The problem is between the main parties. The other Arab states should have taken a stand in solidarity with the Arab states directly concerned with the Arab-Israeli conflict. [passage omitted]

[Ma'ruf] Your nonparticipation in the multilateral talks will not affect the bilateral negotiations?

[Buwayz] Logically, we should not jump to the third phase before the second phase is completed. Our terms are not impossible. We have not said that we would not attend the multilateral negotiations unless Israel withdraws from the occupied Lebanese and Arab territories, and we have not said that we would not attend without a final written agreement. All we have said is that we want to hear some reassuring words from the Israeli and U.S. sides. Even less than that, we spoke of the need for a confirmation of the contents of the U.S. message of assurances conveyed to us before the Madrid Conference. If they have reconsidered, then they should tell us so that we may say that the conference was pointless; but if they still adhere to it, then they should speed matters up and officially, publicly, and clearly confirm this so as to reassure the Arab people that the negotiations are about real peace, not an imposed peace. [passage omitted]

[Ma'ruf] Israel wants a bilateral agreement with Lebanon as a price for its withdrawal.

[Buwayz] Israel's withdrawal from southern Lebanon and western al-Biqa' should only be in accordance with Resolution 425. That resolution is clear. It was issued by the highest international authority and, according to some, this is the era of international legitimacy. Let us then begin with these resolutions.

Appendix 426 of Resolution 425 provides a complete mechanism for Israeli withdrawal from Lebanese territory. We do not know why we should be asked to propose or negotiate new mechanisms. The issue is clear. If Israel really wants to withdraw from Lebanese territory then there is a legal and political resolution and also a mechanism for such withdrawal. If the intentions were good we would have made more progress in the negotiations.

That is the situation as far as Lebanese territory is concerned. We, however, have linked any peace with Israel to its withdrawal from the other occupied Arab territories in accordance with Resolutions 242 and 338. Resolution 425 does not make peace between Lebanon and Israel a precondition for withdrawal. It stipulates that Israel should withdraw unconditionally. We believe that the price of peace between Israel and Lebanon is withdrawal from the occupied Lebanese and Arab territories.

[Ma'ruf] What about the U.S. position?

[Buwayz] At the beginning of the peace conference we were told by the United States, in letters of assurance, that it was committed to helping Lebanon implement Resolution 425 and would work hard for Israeli withdrawal from Lebanese territory. We are waiting for such implementation. As I said before, all we are asking now is nothing more than a clear and public U.S. confirmation of the letters of assurance, but that has not happened. [passage omitted]

[Ma'ruf] What about Lebanese-Palestinian relations?

[Buwayz] I met with brother Abu-'Ammar ['Arafat] in Marrakech. We discussed several issues, and our views were quite close on the status of Jerusalem and the peace process in general. Palestinian-Lebanese relations are good. In the numerous meetings held in Marrakech we had common views on all Lebanese-Palestinian issues.

[Ma'ruf] Has a date been set for the opening of the Palestinian embassy in Beirut?

[Buwayz] That issue was not discussed in Marrakech but, as you know, brother Shafiq al-Hut, the PLO representative in Beirut, met with His Excellency President al-Hirawi a few days ago. I believe that there are some technical points to be worked out regarding the embassy. I emphasize that they are technical and nothing more and are expected to be resolved soon.

Views Israeli 'Intransigence'

NC0102174792 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1630 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz returned to Beirut from Paris this afternoon at the end of a tour of Morocco and Romania.

He said that the issue of reviving the tripartite committee was not discussed during his visit to Morocco.

Commenting on reports that he challenged King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat to attend the peace negotiations, Buwayz affirmed: The issue is out of the question. In my view, however, peace in the region must be comprehensive or else there should be no peace at all. The theme originally was a genuine and comprehensive peace. How can this peace be genuine when the Moscow meeting did not include the three main parties—Lebanon, Syria, and the Palestinians?

Buwayz said he believes that because of Israel's intransigence and impediments, there was no substantial progress in the bilateral talks. Therefore, he added, this conference has not achieved its basic goals and it is premature to predict whether it will succeed.

Urges Action on Resolution 425

NC3101222292 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz today assessed the peace conference's prospects for success or failure. He said if the conference has any chance for success, Lebanon will give it every chance. If the opposite is true, we will leave the opportunity of foiling it to others.

In a statement to SAWT AL-KUWAYT, Buwayz warned of the dangers of Arab participation in the multilateral conference in the absence of the key parties—Lebanon, Syria, and the Palestinians. He stressed that Lebanon always will be prepared to pursue the bilateral talks. He said: We went to the conference with a clear position in accordance with U.S. assertions and a prepared letter. [as heard] He said: We call for implementing this letter, and foremost among these assertions is implementing Security Council Resolution 425.

Supports Resistance to Israelis

NC0202182892 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz has said that Israel is wrong if it thinks it can reach unilateral agreements with Arab states.

In a statement published today in SAWT AL-KUWAYT, Buwayz said that Israel understands that despite the peace agreement reached with Egypt, Israel has not achieved its desired objectives. He warned of attempts to isolate Syria from the peace negotiations, noting that this would produce serious consequences in the region but that it would not achieve regional peace.

Minister Buwayz said that the Lebanese Government's position on resistance operations in the south is crystal clear: It cannot ask any Lebanese citizen to stop resisting the Israeli forces as long as the Israelis continue to occupy his land and home. This is particularly true because, he said, the Lebanese citizen enjoys international support.

Minister Says Water Not Subject to Negotiations

NC0302125692 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1400 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] After touring a number of southern villages, Finance Minister Dr. 'Ali al-Khalil said that Lebanese waters never have been and never will be subject to negotiation. He added that Lebanon's decision not to participate in the multilateral talks is the correct policy in view of Lebanon's stand that it will only continue the talks to the extent that the UN Security Council resolutions on Lebanon, especially Resolution 425, are implemented.

The finance minister urged the parties concerned to reconsider the proposal to reduce the size of the UN Interim Force in Lebanon.

Fatah Security Official Killed by Gunmen 1 Feb

NC0202095292 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] Amin al-Kayid, a Fatah security official, was killed by gunmen in the 'Ayn al-Hulwah Palestinian camp in south Lebanon yesterday.

Lebanese Forces Commander Departs for U.S. Visit

NC0102183492 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Text] Lebanese Forces Commander Dr. Samir Ja'ja' left for Washington yesterday evening via Larnaca on a 10-day working visit.

'Official Source' Comments on Seizure of Tanks

JN0102115392 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1115 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Text] Damascus—An official source has stated the following:

The Syrian Government has purchased a number of tanks from Czechoslovakia. Some of these tanks were shipped from a Polish port aboard a German freighter.

On 29 January 1992, vessels from the German fleet in the Gibraltar area impounded the freighter and returned it to Germany.

The Syrian Foreign Ministry has summoned the German ambassador to Damascus and handed him a protest against this action, demanding a clear explanation for this measure. The Syrian Arab Republic Embassy in Bonn undertook a similar measure.

The German side expressed to our embassy in Bonn the German Government's desire to handle the situation on the basis of the good relations existing between the two countries. It explained that the matter does not concern Syria and is not directed against Syria. Instead, it is directed against the German transport company which should have obtained permission from the German Government to ship the cargo, in observance of a German law prohibiting German transport companies from shipping weapons from within or outside of Germany without obtaining permission in advance. It also stated that the German Government does not intend to keep the cargo.

Out of the desire to maintain the good relations between them, expressed by both countries through the contacts they have held, the two sides will continue these contacts to resolve this question as soon as possible.

Newspapers Criticize Arab Participation in Talks

'Major Gains for Israel'

JN0102121192 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0830 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Text] Damascus, 1 Feb (SANA)—TISHRIN has vehemently criticized the participation of Arab parties in the Moscow multilateral conference. The paper affirms that this participation has led to major gains for Israel, the most important of which is the termination of Israel's international isolation.

In an editorial appearing in today's issue, the paper says that although the Syrian, Lebanese, and Palestinian boycott of the Moscow negotiations tangibly reduced the losses that could have been sustained by the Arab cause, and led to attention being focused on the fundmentals of the Arab-Israeli conflict, the incontestable fact remains that the Moscow meeting not only was premature but also gravely harmed the peace process.

The paper explains that the Israeli rulers viewed the international gathering in Moscow as encouragement for them to persist in defying the international community and its resolutions and in rejecting the essence of the U.S. peace initiative, an initiative which proceeds from UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and the land-for-peace principle.

In this regard, TISHRIN refers to the Israeli prime minister's declaration that settlement building will continue throughout the occupied Arab territories and that bilateral talks will achieve no progress if the Arabs continue to demand their occupied territories. The paper refers to the news leaked by the Zionist settlement council with regard to plans to establish 40 settlements and to grant settlers new authority in the areas of land confiscation, the expulsion of Arabs from their homeland, and the spreading of a climate of terror and panic.

The paper says: Naturally, the Israeli rulers would not have been able to openly declare this flagrant defiance of the will of the international community had it not been for the allurement they sensed in Moscow and the promises they received for loan guarantees and lavish aid.

Concluding its editorial, the paper affirms that Syria is looking forward to a genuine peace. However, Syria will not relinquish Arab rights and territory and will in no way establish any form of cooperation before international resolutions are fully implemented. The paper affirms that the peace process could collapse if the United States does not honor its obligations by putting an end to Israel's aggressiveness and disregard for all norms, values, principles, and international charters.

Arab Participation 'Astonishing Paradox'

JN0202113092 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0830 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] Damascus, 2 Feb (SANA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH has strongly criticized the Arabs who participated in the Moscow negotiations and chided them for their disregard of the reality of the conflict with Israel, reminding them that realizing peace requires the establishment of justice on a large scale.

In a comment today, the paper said it is a very astonishing paradox that these people discuss issues related to the environment and its problems; water and its woes; and the subjects of development, economy, cooperation, and normalization before they are satisfied about the return of land, water, and wasted rights and dignity.

The paper asks: Are we going to pardon the thief, take back what he has stolen, and forget about the past in submission to a logic that is strange to any pan-Arab tradition?

The newspaper recalls that the position of the Arabs who attended the Moscow talks comes simultaneously with Israeli arrogance that humiliates them at a time they were speaking about good-will steps.

The newspaper denounces the position of these people toward international legitimacy which, in their view, turned into a process of appeasing Israel as if the new world order should be tailored to suit the size of the Israeli body, which is being swollen by occupation and expansion.

Concluding its comment, AL-THAWRAH said that in the end, those going to Moscow will not resolve the conflict, and they will not be able to "normalize no matter how much they neglect the facts" because the conflict has its pillars and peace has its bases.

Afghanistan

Explosion Destroys Arsenal, Kills Guards

LD0202230592 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] A large arsenal belonging to the Hezb-e Eslami-e Khales located in Naibsalar [word indistinct], Srarod district, Nangarhar Province exploded and was gutted as a result of mines planted by the rival groups.

The BIA [Bakhtar Information Agency] military section reports that in the course of this explosion all the arms and ammunition stored in that depot were burned out and destroyed, and a number of the guards were killed or injured.

Rebel Leader Urges Moscow Accord Implementation

BK0302110592 Hong Kong AFP in English 1054 GMT 3 Feb 92

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, Feb 3 (AFP)—A prominent Afghan resistance leader urged the United Nations here Monday to implement an agreement between Moscow and the mojahedin aimed at ending the 13-year-old Afghan war.

The accord, reached in November during a mojahedin delegation's visit to Moscow before the formal breakup of the Soviet Union, provided for "transfer of power to an interim Islamic government," Burhanoddin Rabbani told journalists.

Rabbani, who led the delegation, said the joint statement issued in Moscow after extensive talks with Russian and Soviet officials offered the "shortest route" to a solution.

Any other course—such as a forming a coalition of the mojahedin and the Kabul Government to run the country pending elections—would only further complicate the situation, Rabbani said.

Rabbani, chief of the Jamiat-e Eslami faction, was speaking ahead of an expected meeting with the U.N. secretary general's personal envoy, Benon Sevan, who arrived here Monday for talks with mojahedin leaders. Sevan is to do spadework for a U.N.-proposed Afghan assembly, which would form an interim administration and hold elections.

The Jamiat leader did not reject the U.N. peace plan but said it was vague on composition of the proposed assembly, its agenda and criteria for selecting the participants.

The mojahedin have repeatedly said they would reject anyone from the Kabul government in an assembly or coalition, Rabbani said.

Bangladesh

Ex-President Jailed for Three Years for Graft

BK0302061792 Hong Kong AFP in English 0612 GMT 3 Feb 92

[Text] Dhaka, Feb 3 (AFP)—A special court here Monday jailed Bangladesh's deposed president Hussain Mohammad Ershad for three years on a graft charge.

He had been charged with misappropriating state gifts worth 1.1 billion taka (30,000 dollars) and wrongfully amassing wealth of 22.1 billion taka (600,000 dollars) during his nearly nine-year rule.

Ershad, 62, Bangladesh's longest-serving head of state, was last year sentenced to 10 years hard labor for possesing eight illegal weapons.

The former army general seized power in a 1982 bloodless coup and was ousted by a mass uprising in December 1990.

Bomb Kills 14 on Motor Launch; Group Condemned

BK0202161692 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh Network in English 1530 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] Fourteen people, including women and children, were killed when a bomb planted by suspected insurgents in a launch exploded in (Nangalu) upazila [subdistrict] of Rangamati District today. Ten others were injured. According to agency reports, the time bomb went off at 1200 noon when the launch with nearly 200 passagers from Manisha in Bazarsharif reached Mahinna village in (Nangalu). Eleven tribals died on board the motor launch while three others succumbed to their injuries at the Rabita hospital. The injured persons were taken by helicopter for treatment at the combined military hospital in Chittagong. The Rangamati local government parishad [council] chairman (Goltandewar) has condemned the atrocities of the so-called Shanti Bahini [peace force].

India

Rao in Zurich; Says Reforms 'Irreversible'

BK0202161792 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Narasimha Rao, has asserted that the process of economic reforms is irreversible. Addressing a gathering of leading European industrialists at Zurich, he said that major political parties in India are fully behind the government in its pursuit of throwing open the economy to foreign investments. He invited Western entrepreneurs to invest in a wide range of industries in India and said that the government will give all possible incentives to them. Listing measures to integrate the country's economy with the world economy, he said the government has now allowed automatic entry of enterprises with a foreign majority holding. A foreign investment promotion board has been

set up and procedures streamlined. Over 3,000 new proposals have been received since changes were introduced in Indian industrial policy.

The prime minister who arrived in Switzerland on a short visit is to address the world economic forum at Davos. AIR special correspondent Bhupal Inder Seni, accompanying the prime minister, reports:

[Begin Seni recording] The prime minister's visit to Switzerland and his meeting with the world economic forum are part of the drive to make the international community aware of the new economic direction India has taken. Earlier, Mr. Narasimha Rao had visited Germany and Venezuela in this connection. As in Bonn and Caracas, a group of leading Indian businessmen and industrialists is also visiting Davos in Switzerland coinciding with the prime minister's visit. The world economic forum comprises the captains of industry and commerce the world over. Mr. Narasimha Rao's address to the forum's annual session tomorrow is expected to remove the misgivings the world industries may still have about investing in India. There will be a special briefing session on India where the prime minister will have broad interaction with the business leaders. Mr. Narasimha Rao will utilize this visit to have talks today with the Pakistan prime minister, Mr. Nawaz Sharif, who is also addressing the world economic forum. Mr. Rao will also be meeting the presidents of Ukraine and Kazakhstan—two important members of the Commonwealth of Independent States. The talks are expected to focus on revitalizing India's economic ties with the two former Soviet republics. [end recording].

Rao Meets John Major, Boris Yeltsin, Others

BK0102082092 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0730 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Text] The prime minister has declared that Pakistan cannot take away Kashmir by force. Any settlement of the matter can be reached only under the Simla Agreement. During talks with his British counterpart Mr. John Major, Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao said elections will be held in Punjab, though there might be some trouble.

Briefing reporters on the bilateral discussions the prime minister has had in New York, an official spokesman said President Boris Yeltsin assured Mr. Rao that Russia will adopt the same policy on Kashmir as that of the former Soviet Union. Mr. Yeltsin will be visiting India sometime in September or October, while first deputy prime minister will be coming in the next couple of months to sort out economic problems.

Both Mr. Major and the Belgian prime minister, Mr. Wilfried Martens, told Mr. Narasimha Rao that they will help India in getting greater access to the unified European economic market.

Issues relating to Special 301 and the Dunkel's proposals came up for discussion during the prime minister's talks with U.S. President Mr. George Bush. Both sides expressed the confidence that the matter can be resolved at the on-going Geneva talks.

Mr. Narasimha Rao will be meeting the Chinese prime minister, Mr. Li Peng, before leaving New York for Davos in Switzerland.

More on Meetings With Leaders

BK0302033292 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 3 Feb 92

[Excerpt] The prime ministers of India and Pakistan have agreed to remain in close touch to provide impetus to the official-level talks on bilateral issues. Briefing newsmen after their talks in the Swiss resort of Davos yesterday, Mr. Narasimha Rao and Mr. Nawaz Sharif said the foreign secretaries will be meeting in March to continue the process. The meeting, which took place without aides, also covered Kashmir.

While Mr. Nawaz Sharif described the talks as good, Mr. Rao said they have helped in understanding each other's problems better. The two prime ministers are in Davos to participate in the World Economic Forum meeting. Mr. Narasimha Rao will address the plenary session of the forum today. He will also hold a dialogue with prospective foreign investors. Yesterday Mr. Rao had meetings with the ANC [African National Congress] leader, Dr. Nelson Mandela, and the Ukranian president, Mr. Leonid Kravchuk.

A senior official of the Russian Federation, Mr. Andrey Fedorov, attending the forum session, told our correspondent that it may be necessary for New Delhi and Moscow to carry out trade on a hard currency basis. This, he said, is due to the inherent weakness of the Commonwealth of Independent States. [passage omitted]

Rao, Li Peng Meet in New York, Exchange Views

BK0202033492 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao, and his Chinese counterpart, Mr. Li Peng, have agreed to give a political direction if necessary to find an early solution to the border issue.

At their meeting in New York yesterday, they also agreed that attempts should be made by both sides to narrow down the differences. The two leaders were of the view that peace and tranquillity on the line of actual control should be maintained. The joint group on border dispute will be meeting in New Delhi by the end of this month, or early next month. The two prime minsters also decided to direct the joint committee on economic cooperation to meet soon.

On the outcome of the Security Council summit, Mr. Rao and Mr. Li Peng shared their assessment that there

are similarities of views between India and China on issues relating to human rights, development, and environment.

An official spokesman told reporters that the two leaders exchanged views on several bilateral issues at the meeting lasting about half an hour. The prime minister, Mr. Narasimha Rao, has accepted in principle an invitation from Mr. Li Peng to visit China.

Rao Says UN Council Summit 'Good Beginning'

BK0302062992 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] The prime minister has said that the Security Council summit is a good beginning to make the world body a more effective organization. He spoke to our correspondent Shashi Mehta on the significance of the summit that concluded in New York yesterday.

[Begin recording] [Mehta] This was a unprecedented summit meeting of the Security Council. Do you think it has achieved any results?

[Rao] This was unprecedented and no doubt that it was necessary in the sense that after so many decades the world has undergone a very radical change and it was incumbent on the Security Council and the United Nations in general to find a new role—an appropriate role for itself—in the changed circumstances. So, I think it was timely; it was useful. The discussions were frank and free, and one could see the contours of certain views evolving at the discussions. I did not expect this meeting to come up with any final or definitive solutions because it was not realistic to do so. But I did expect a good interchange of views, exchange of views, and that is what has happened. There have been new answers where differences exist, and that also is going to happen. So on the whole, I think, it is a good beginning for this new quest of a role for the United Nations, and I am sure that in course of time, the Security Council will be able to formulate this new role which it has now embarked upon. [end recording]

Airs Differences

BK3101054592 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Text] Leaders of the 15 UN Security Council members countries have ended their first summit in New York with a call to make the world body a more effective peacekeeper. The presidential statement issued on behalf of the council by the British prime minister, Mr. John Major, also pledged to strengthen the UN role in disarmament, arms control, and non-proliferation. It said the world now has the best ever chance since the Second World War to achieve peaceful prosperity. The leaders asked the secretary general to submit by the first of July his analyses and recommendations on ways to strengthen the world body's capacity for preventive diplomacy, peace-making, and peace-keeping.

Our special correspondent reports from New York that the statement hammered out after days of tough negotiations does not reflect full consensus. The prime minister, Mr. Narasimha Rao, clearly mentioned that it does not reflect one or two of India's crucial concerns.

Mr. Rao called for adopting a global approach to nuclear non-proliferation and said international norms of human rights cannot be unilaterally defined.

[Begin Rao recording] I have profound respect for those who are crusading for the protection and preservation of human rights. Indian culture and human rights in their loftiest form are almost synonymous. However, having stated this, we cannot countenance a situation where all human rights are reserved only for the practitioners of terrorism, while governments dealing with this menace are arraigned day and night on grounds of violation of human rights—real or imaginary—mostly the latter. It is also important to note that the content and nature of human rights are conditioned by the social, traditional, and cultural forces that (?inform) different societies. While the endeavor of the UN as being intimated in this meeting is to gradually move toward creating uniform international norms for human rights, such norms should not be unilaterally defined and set up as absolute preconditions for inter-action between states and societies in the political or economic spheres. Our endeavor should be to work toward a just and fair world economic order and to encourage countries to move toward universal norms of human rights. [end recording]

Our correspondent says there were also differences on the need for making the UN, particularly the Security Council, more democratic and representative and the council's role vis-a-vis other UN organs. Most of the speakers said the summit has taken place at a turning point in history when there is a need to evolve a new world order. Thirteen countries were represented by their heads of state or government, while Zimbabwe and Hungary were represented by their foreign ministers.

President, Burmese Envoy Discuss Dissident

BK0302102292 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 3 Feb 92

[Text] The new ambassador of Myanmar [Burma], U Win Lwin, presented his credentials to the president, Mr. R. Venkataraman, at Rashtrapati Bhavan [president's House] in New Delhi today. Welcoming the ambassador, Mr. Venkataraman said India is looking forward to the release of the Burmese leader, Mrs. Aung San Suu Kyi, from house arrest. The president also expressed New Delhi's concern over the delay and uncertainty to form a popular government in Myanmar. He hoped for an early and peaceful transition to democracy in Myanmar.

In his reply, U Win Lwin, said his country wants to revatilize its friendship with India in a constructive manner.

Burmese Military Buildup Reported Near Nagaland

BK0202083892 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] There are reports of heavy military buildup by Myanmar [Burma] along the Indo-Myanmar border near Nagaland following recent clashes between the underground rebels and the Army in that country. Hundreds of Myanmar nationals are reported to have entered Nagaland because of the clashes.

About 1,100 Candidates To Run in Punjab Elections

BK0102161692 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Text] Filing of nominations came to a close this evening for elections to 13 Lok Sabha and 117 assembly seats in Punjab. According to the reports available so far, about 1,100 candidates have entered the fray.

AIR [All India Radio] Chandigarh correspondent reports that a record number of over 900 nomination papers were filed on the last day today. Several candidates belonging to the major political parties filed their papers today. The Congress-I is contesting all the seats. The BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] is fielding its candidates in nine Lok Sabha and 70 Assembly constituencies. The party released its second list of candidates today. The Janata Dal is to contest six Lok Sabha and 56 assembly seats. The CPI, CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist] and Akali Dal-Kabul are also taking part in the elections.

The election commission today registered the Shiromani Akali Dal-S headed by Mr. Sugjinder Singh as a political party. The party is participating in the Punjab elections.

The scrutiny of nomination papers will be held on Monday and the last date for withdrawal is the 5th of this month. The polling will take place on the 19th of this month. The center is sending additional paramilitary forces to ensure a free and fair election in Punjab. The home minister, Mr. S.B. Chavan will go to Chandigarh to discuss poll arrangements.

Addressing a press confernce in New Delhi today, the BJP president, Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi, said his party will fight the elections in Punjab on its own. He said the party's election plank is the elimination of terrorism from the state.

Army To Stay After Elections

BK0102050692 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Text] The defense minister, Mr. Sharad Pawar, has said the army will stay in Punjab even after the elections are over. Speaking at Pune, Mr. Pawar said presence of the armed forces in the state is necessary till militant activities continue [as heard].

BJP Wants Rao Government To Continue in Office

BK0302034292 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 3 Feb 92

[Text] The BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] leader, Mr. Atal Behari Vajpayee, says that his party would like the Narasimha Rao government to continue in office as the country does not want a mid-term poll. Speaking to newspersons in Calcutta, Mr. Vajpayee said the union government should evolve a consensus budget for the next year. He said the BJP will evaluate next year's budget in terms of its impact on the common man.

LTTE Declared Offenders in Rajiv Gandhi Murder

BK3101131292 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Text] The designated court in Madras probing the assassination of the former prime minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, has declared the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] leader, Mr. Prabhakaran, and his intelligence chief, Mr. Pottuman, as proclaimed offenders. The judge, Mr. S.M. Siddiqui, accepting the plea of the Special Investigation Team has also asked the two to surrender before the court on or before the 28th of next month.

Trade Agreement Signed With Uzbekistan

BK2801151792 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1430 GMT 28 Jan 92

[Text] India and Uzbekistan have signed a trade agreement for this year. The agreement provides a balanced trade turnover of about $75 million. The imports from Uzbekistan include long and extralong staple cotton, urea, copper wire, and liquid ammonia. Exports from India include tea, cardamom and other spices, cashew, medicines, toothpaste, metal kitchenware, pesticides, artificial leather, cotton fabrics, and small cement plants.

Iran

President Greets Khamene'i on 'Ten Days of Dawn'

LD0202163792 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Address by President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani in Tehran on 2 February—recorded]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners: We reported that His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution, this morning received a group of the country's authorities, along with the Ten-Day-Dawn guests in the Imam Khomeyni Hoseyniyeh [shrine], on the occassion of the anniversary of Muhammad's prophetic mission—God's peace be upon him and his scion. President Hashemi-Rafsanjani, representing those present, congratulated him on the occasion of 'Id al-Mab'as and God's days of the Ten Days of Dawn. Those attending

included: The head of the three powers, Guardian Council members, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin, Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni, Expediency Discernment Council members, Majlis members, a group of high-ranking military and state officials, the speaker of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, officials of Afghan parties and groups, diplomatic representatives of the Islamic states in Tehran, and foreign guests participating in the Islamic Thought Conference and the Ten Days of Dawn celebrations. We end the newscast by broadcasting the entire meeting. Good day, and God be with you.

[Rafsanjani] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful: [passage omitted]

The auspicious 'Id al-Mab'as of the revered prophet and the auspicious 'Id of the Ten Days of Dawn, the day of blessing, the day of the return of our demised imam to Iran, considering the conditions that today prevail in the world of Islam, have a different meaning for us this year. [passage omitted]

The coincidence of the prophetic mission of the revered prophet and the Ten Days of Dawn this year is a sign of special conditions. We see the world of Islam on the move, and we see today a sample of the mission of prophets in the hearts of the Islamic ummah worldwide. The birth of the Islamic republics north of our country, those which for decades were caught in the bloody clutches of Marxism and raised their heads from under the ruins of atheism, and the uprising that can be seen across the world of Islam—in Asia, Africa, and anywhere Muslims are present—is the harbinger of the mission's renewal. Islamic Iran, the base of the new movement of the world of Islam, the mother of towns [ummah ol-qora'] of the world of Islam, today is proud to notice that the path they have chosen, led by their demised imam—thank God—is in an evolutionary path, and the eyes of Muslims worldwide are focused here and expect the exalted leadership of the revolution, the worthy, capable, and pious scion of the imam of the ummah, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i...[audience interrupts, chanting: "God's blessing be upon Mohammed and his scion"] they expect to hear appropriate guidelines for their movement next year during these auspicious and inspiring days. We await your excellency's guidelines. God's peace and blessing be upon you. [audience chants: "God's peace be upon Muhammad and his scion"]

Khamene'i Address

LD0202171792 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Address by Ayatollah Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution, in Tehran on 2 February—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful: I would like to offer my greetings on this auspicious and great Islamic 'Id to all the world's Muslims; to Iran's noble and faithful nation; and to you, honorable people, who are here today, and especially to the honorable guests of the Ten Days of Dawn.

The great event of the prophetic mission is, despite the passage of centuries and comments by many of the world's thinkers, still worth examining and studying from various aspects. [passage omitted]

The prophet and Islam gave humanity a healing prescription for all ages, a prescription for curing human ignorance, for confronting the presence of injustice, confronting discrimination, confronting the trampling of the weak by the strong, for confronting all the ills from which humanity has suffered since the beginning of creation. It is a prescription for dealing with all those things. As is the case with all other prescriptions, if it is acted upon it will yield results. If it is abandoned or misunderstood, or if the boldness and courage to act upon it is lacking, it will be a dead letter. If the best doctor gives you the best prescription but you cannot read it, or you misunderstand it, or you do not act upon it, or you set it aside, what good will it do? How is the doctor to blame?

Centuries passed; Muslims forgot the Koran. The Koran's clear lines faded from people's lives. Either they misunderstood it or they deliberately tampered with it or else they understood it but did not have the courage to act upon it or they did act and it even yielded results, but they did not offer any sacrifices to defend and preserve the results. [passage omitted]

It is a prescription. A prescription for what illness? For human ignorance. This human ignorance is not defined as the opposite of invention and discovery but, rather, as the case that if humanity gains various bits of knowledge but fails to understand correct human relations, it is ignorant. If humanity even attains the height of scientific knowledge but regards human beings as two types of people, as two classes of people from the point of view of rights and laws, that humanity is ignorant. That is the illness which causes wretchedness and misery. Even if humanity achieves material progress but the foundations of its life are based on oppression and opressiveness rules over peoples' lives and strong powers trample upon the weak and the light of wisdom and humanity does not shine and deceit rules the world, then that still amounts to the same state of backwardness. [passage omitted]

Whenever tyranny rules, and the weak are ruled by the strong, and fraternal killing and corruption exist, then the same prescription applies. It does not become obsolete. Whenever an Islamic movement is formed in the world, some certain group of people begin to write that Islam is old-fashioned and the day has passed to speak of such words. Those things stem from a misunderstanding of Islam. They stem from lack of understanding about the reality and the content of the religion of Islam or it stems from spitefulness.

Agents of arrogance have been writing and saying things against Islam for 13 years because of the Islamic

Republic and to crush the Islamic revolution. They say these things are fogyism and are old-fashioned. No, these things are not old-fashioned. These are cures for chronic human diseases. As long as those illnesses persist, the same prescription is valid.

The same pens have begun to write the same things and repeat the same words and the same issues today because people in North Africa and Algeria have resumed their Islamic movement and are displaying their Islamic tendencies. Those words are irrelevant. Be'athat [prophetic mission] is forever. The Islamic prescription which has been written through Be'athat is forever. Humanity can be treated first by Muslim nations themselves. All or most of the blight which used to rule over lives of people in the Arabian peninsula due to ignorance exists today and rules over the lives of Muslim nations. There is poverty and illiteracy, scientific backwardness, and domestic suppression in Islamic countries; the arrogant powers practice hegemony, and internal discord exists among them. There are over one billion Muslims in the world today. They can play a decisive role and have a decisive opinion on the most important world issues. They are drowned in discord, internal problems, and the most basic difficulties. That huge mass of people, including many scientists, scholars, and prominent figures, has become futile. Why? Who can cure those illnesses? Islam can. Islam can through the appointment to prophethood of the honorable messenger—God's peace and benedictions be upon him. [audience chants: "Peace be upon Mohammad and his scion"]

Islamic nations must return to Islam. Of course, the gates have been opened. The last century was the century of Islamic protest. [passage omitted]

Nearly the whole century was a century of protest and struggle. The century which we are in today is the century of experience. The 14th century of the Hegira calender was the century of protest, awakening, and assertion; this century, the 15th, has been the century of experience and action. We can see that Islamic nations have gained experience and are acting. One example has been the Islamic Republic. It was the first example. We faced many problems because we were the first example. Muslims must learn from this example. Those who want to bring the Islamic movement to fruition in their own countries, those nations could act even more comprehensively than the Iranian nation, could bring that to fruition, if God helps them and if they strive for it. Muslims have no option but to return to Islam. Muslims have no option but to establish the rule of Islam and to implement and realize Islamic action. No hope of assistance must be placed in the old and vengeful enemies of Islam. There must not even be any hope that they will be tolerant. Look how they have behaved toward the Iranian nation in the 13 years since the Islamic revolution's victory. We are now celebrating the 13th anniversary and the start of the 14th year. Look at what they said, what they wrote, and how they behaved! All that is an experience for Islamic nations. No experience is sweeter than this, that a nation should be able, despite all the pressures placed on it and the imposition of an eight-year war and a variety of pressures—economic, political, cultural, economic siege, military invasion—that despite the enemy and despite the big powers and the superpowers of the world, that it should be able to endure for 13 years and become stronger each day. No experience is more vital, more sweet, and more appealing for Muslims than this. That is what the Iranian nation has done. It has been able to stand on its own feet, to move, to advance, to foil conspiracies, to put a war of such dimensions behind it, to defeat the united enemies of that war. All of this is due to the blessings of Islam. No experience is greater than this for Muslims.

Of course, they speak against us in the world. We do not expect them to remain silent. The top speaking platforms of the world are in the hands of the Zionists, in the hands of the United States. If the Zionists did not speak against the Islamic Republic, it would be cause for surprise. If the United States and its propaganda organs did not insult us, it would be cause for surprise. This is not a surprise, that would be a surprise; this side of the matter is not cause for surprise, it is the other side that causes surprise. They have heaped various accusation on us. Let them! They mobilize their organizations in the name of human rights and defense of such and such and accuse the Islamic Republic of violating human rights! What intelligent person would not smile sarcastically at this? All of their powers are actually against the interests of humanity! If the United States—whose entire recent history, as we recall, is filled with crimes against humanity and nations—accuses us of violating human rights, why should we fear? Why should we care? We say that human rights will be maintained under the auspices of Islam and Islamic government. Islam says: The rule of God is God's alone, and God has ordained that you should obey no one but He. This edict negates any tyrannical rule. No one should rule over the people except one who possesses accepted criteria and is accepted by the people. All of the officials in the Islamic Republic who in some way are involved in people's affairs today were chosen by the people themselves, directly or indirectly, including the leadership. It means that in the Islamic system possession of criteria is not sufficient, but the people's choice also is a required condition. It is impossible without the people's choice.

Is this democracy, what we witness today under the auspices of the flamboyance of false propaganda in the powerful states and Western democracies? Of course, they don't even believe in that, and the events in Algeria demonstrated this. Recent Algerian events demonstrated that they do not believe in democracy at all. If democracy means the elections that we witness across the world, well in Algeria...[changes thought] Why was Western propaganda mobilized to crush Islam in Algeria? Why are the powerful around the world not ready to understand the truth of the matter? Unfortunately, some Algerian officials, by the same token, do not want to understand the truth. Why do they say Iran is interfering in our affairs? What interference? Didn't you

see the great Algerian revolution yourselves? This is the same nation, the same nation that struggled and fought for the sake of Islam. They are Muslims! Why do you insult a nation and say that Iran has put Islam in their mouths? Muslim nations are not waiting for someone to put Islam in their mouths. They are Muslims! One example is the states to the north, which were affiliated to the former Soviet Union. After 70-odd years of purging religion and decades of purging religion with utmost violence, you saw that the people, without being told by anyone or taught by anyone, raised their voices themselves and spoke of Islam. It is the same everywhere—nations seek Islam and have recognized Islam. A century of crying out is showing its results in the consciousness of the Islamic world, and the victory of the Islamic revolution and the successful experience of this self-sacrificing nation is demonstrating its results and effects. Nations are leaning toward Islam, and it is certain that, despite all obstruction, eventually the nations will be the victorious ones. [audience chants: "God is great," "Khamene'i is the leader," "Death to the opponents of rule of the supreme jurisconsult," "Death to the United States," "Death to the hypocrite," "Death to Israel"]

Praise be to God, we are proud to have the experiences of Islam behind us. We have learned that as long as we hold on to Islam, this divine, true faith will be our support in all fields and actions. [passage omitted]

We have tested this on the economic scene, on the battlefield, on U.S. aggression, on reconstruction, and on large-scale propaganda against the Islamic Republic. Our beloved imam—may he be admitted to God's paradise—who was the teacher of this nation and other nations on this path gave us this advice: We will not be defeated as long as we hold on to Islam. Of course, there are hardships which one must endure. However, these hardships are a prelude to comforts. [passage omitted]

Praise be to God, we see a bright horizon ahead of us. We deem this awakening a blessing. We feel that the superpower's weapons are becoming less and less potent. We can see the world's behavior in the fact that one superpower was disintegrated and erased from the world map. [passage omitted]

The world and history are bent on wiping out oppressive powers. God willing, values will grow, but this depends on attempts and efforts. Nothing can be gained without effort. [passage omitted]

Muslims must try. They and all of us must have faith so that God may open the windows of mercy upon us. This is our path. This is the Iranian nation's path. [Audience chants: "Khamene'i is our leader," "God's hand is protecting us," "Long live Khamene'i"] [passage omitted]

Rafsanjani Speaks on Anniversay of Revolution

LD0102235392 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1530 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Report on speech by President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani on the occasion of the 13th anniversary of the Islamic revolution in Tehran on 1 February]

[Excerpts] On the 13th anniversary of the victory of the Islamic revolution and on the auspicious occasion of the Ten-Day-Dawn, celebrations commemorating the victory of the Islamic revolution began this evening in the course of a glorious ceremony at Tehran's Laleh Hotel with a speech by President Hashemi-Rafsanjani, in the presence of foreign and domestic guests.

In his speech during the ceremony, which was attended by a number of state and military figures, the honorable families of the martyrs, the disabled, and prisoners, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani paid tribute to the memory of Imam Khomeyni, may he be admitted to God's paradise, and the self-sacrifices of the valuable martyrs of the Islamic revolution and the imposed war.

He then congratulated Muslims worldwide on the blessed birth anniversary of His Holiness, the Great Prophet, may God's blessing be upon him and his scion. [passage omitted]

Remarking on the Islamic Republic of Iran's rapid progress on the path towards achieving total independence in various fields, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani stated: Despite the wishes of the world powers, the possessors of world's technology and science, and the wishes of the world's domineering and evil forces, we are determined to build our country by relying on expert and able domestic forces, and present it to the Islamic world as an Islamic role-model. He added: We are of course aware of the difficult path we have chosen, but we are certain of achieving success.

Pointing to the effective steps hitherto taken in cultural, scientific, political and economic fields, the president said: The just stances adopted by the Islamic Repulic of Iran vis-a-vis global developments are indicative of total political independence, but what we are now seeking is to achieve economic, scientific, and technological independence and hope to follow the natural path towards our destination.

Concluding his remarks, the president expressed hope that the guests participating in the ceremonies commemorating the Islamic revolution will convey the successful experience of the Muslim Iranian nation to all other nations throughout the world. [passage omitted]

Vows To Reconstruct 'Defensive Power'

LD0202164592 Tehran IRNA in English 1431 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 2, IRNA—Iran will take giant steps forward to reconstruct the country and build up her

defensive power in future without sacrificing her political independence, President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said here Saturday. "If you travel to Iran two or three years from now, you will witness Iran's progress in various fields," he told the foreign guests who are here for the ceremonies marking the 13th anniversary of the victory of the Islamic revolution in Iran. The president said the decisive stances of the Islamic Republic vis-a-vis the so-called peace conference, and the issues of Palestine, Algeria and Afghanistan are the signs of full independence of the Islamic Republic and her adherence to Islamic and humanitarian values. "We are satisfied with our cultural independence. What we are after now is economic, scientific, technical and technological independence which are not achieved through struggle or political efforts of the people, but through natural means and steady efforts," the president said. He said Iran's development plans have been formulated into two five-year development plans which will result in outstanding progress and will make the country self-sufficient in production of steel, copper, aluminium, cement, oil, gas, petrochemicals, communications and industrial raw materials. On Iran's aid to her Muslim and non-Muslim neighbours, President Rafsanjani said the Islamic Republic of Iran in spite of sustaining some 1,000,000 million dollars of war damage will help people of the newly-independent republics of the former Soviet Union as well as other oppressed people of the world as much as possible and in accordance with the teachings of the Holy Koran. President Rafsanjani at the end of his speech said the U.S. and other arrogant powers are "seriously impending our efforts," and hatch plots at various levels. "However, experience has shown that the resoluteness and the will of our nation outmaneuver them (arrogant powers) and this can set a good example for all the oppressed nations."

'Thousands' Celebrate Anniversary of Revolution

LD0102090492 Tehran IRNA in English 0811 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 1, IRNA—Thousands of people gathered at the shrine of the late founder of the Islamic Republic Imam Khomeyni at the Behesht-e Zahra Cemetery here this morning to commemorate the first day of the "Ten-Day-Dawn" ceremonies. The celebration of the 13th anniversary of the Islamic revolution are held between Feb. 1, the day the late imam returned home from long years in exile, and Feb. 11 the day the revolution finaily triumphed and put an end to the despotic rule of the former shah. People from various walks of life, as well as civil and military officials and foreign guests attended the inauguration ceremonies at the shrine decorated with Iranians flags and flowers. Army helicopters dropped flowers on the people between the several-kilometer long distance from the airport to the imam's shrine. The crowd listened to a recorded speech by the deceased leader of the Islamic revolution delievred on Feb. 11, 1979. The imam's son Hojjat ol-Eslam Ahmad Khomeyni is to address the large gathering.

Ahmad Khomeyni Supports Khamene'i

LD0102155592 Tehran IRNA in English 1510 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 1, IRNA—The late Imam Khomeyni's son, Ahmad today called on the world Muslims to do their utmost to prevent U.S. from realising its main goal, that is the implementation of the new world order or the U.S. domination over the world. Hojjat ol-Eslam Khomeyni, made the statement at a gathering marking the first day of the Ten-Day-Dawn ceremonies held at the imam's shrine at Behesht-e Zahra Cemetery. He stressed that the Iranian nation should follow the leader of the Islamic Republic Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i if they wanted to stand against the U.S., the West and arrogance. Reiterating respect for international laws and borders he said that as a Muslim nation, the Iranians would rush to help any Muslim or oppressed people anywhere in the world.

Musavi-Ardebili Delivers Tehran Friday Prayers

LD3101113692 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Excerpts] The immaculate Friday prayer rituals were performed this week as in previous weeks with the presence of faithful and revolutionary prayer-givers across the Islamic homeland. In Tehran, the God-seeking people gathered at Tehran University and gave prayers under the leadership of Ayatollah Musavi-Ardebili. [passage omitted]

Continuing his remarks, Mr. Musavi-Ardebili spoke of the awareness and movement of Muslims around the world and said: This has worried the enemy. Despite their slogans in support of human rights, they step on their dignity to uproot Islam. They will never succeed. He continued: The foundation for Muslim awareness and the destruction of infidelity were laid by the great leader of the Islamic Revolution, His Eminence Imam Khomeyni, may he be admitted to God's paradise. Today only the Islamic revolution recognizes itself as the guardian of Islam. The world also knows us by this name. If we act correctly, and with God's blessings, other apostatic systems will fall apart—just as socialism fell apart in the Soviet Union. The Muslims will be victorious. [passage omitted]

Views 'Current Status' of Muslims

LD3101220292 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1210 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Second Friday prayers sermon by Ayatollah Musavi-Ardebili in Tehran on 31 January—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. [passage omitted]

I intended, as I said, in the second sermon to talk about the current status of Muslims in the world today. But I am not feeling well, and the time is gradually coming to its end. Let me say a few words—do forgive me—and end.

The Muslims... [changes thought] Brothers and sisters! Muslims today have two states; one which makes them happy and one which makes them unhappy. What makes makes us happy—very happy—worries our enemies. What makes them happy is worrisome to us. Both exist at the moment.

On the one hand, Muslims have awakened. This is cause for great happiness. [passage omitted]

This awakening has been brought about in the world, in the Muslim ummah, by the grace of God.

The Hejaz Muslims. The Hejaz Muslims came to a point... [changes thought] What about Hejaz. In Hejaz no one dared touch the shrine [Zarih], fearing their hand would be cut off. No one dared kiss the Zarih, fearing they would be beaten on the head with a whip. Now Fahd says that if Hejaz fundamentalists interfere in government policy, they will be dealt with severely; this is a confession that we have fundamentalists in Hejaz, fundamentalists that worry Fahd. This is one point.

The second. Meanwhile we promise to review our policy [as heard], give freedom to the people, Constitution... [corrects himself] lay down laws, and respect the people's rights in the new laws. This is cause for great happiness.

The Algerian situation inflames hearts, but for Islam to be revived in Algeria in such a way, grow, and capture the hearts of the people, has made the world colonialists, world imperialists—America is not the only one, Mr. Mitterrand also says things, another one also says things—that has made them worry. This is cause for happiness. The situation in Sudan is cause for happiness—that Sudan should turn solidly to Islam! The disintegration of the Soviet Union and the movement of the Islamic republics toward Islam is cause for happiness—anything that makes the enemies of Islam become agitated, become worried and concerned, as they are now. They trample on their own reputation. Those who support human rights, in order to eradicate [rishehkan] fundamentalists... [changes thought] By God they will not be eradicated. [Chants of: God is great; Khamene'i is the leader; Death to America, Death to Israel; Islam is victorious, East and West are annihilated]

We have passed the difficult problem. The difficult issue was the Muslims' awakening from sleep, from stupor, the fear that had gripped the hearts of Muslims, fear for one's life, apprehension, imaginings. May God bless the founder of the Islamic republic, by whose hands the first stone was laid. He said they can't do a damned thing.

The issue that worries us is the unipolarity of the world with America flexing its muscles. They believe, and rightly so, that they cannot rule the world with fundamentalists around. If its rule is to be strengthened and guaranteed, every fundamentalist, Islam, and Koran must be uprooted from this world. With all its power, with all its hellish power, it shamelessly attacked during the Persian Gulf war and proved how far it is prepared to go.

This is worrying. If Muslims keep alert their thoughts, their tongues, and their pens—and God willing the Muslims of the world will be coordinated—the day will come. [as heard] [passage omitted]

This is my final word, brothers and sisters. In this world, under the skies, on this Earth the system that beats the stone of Islam on its chest and knows itself to be the guardian of Islamic revolutions is Iran. And others know us by this name and address. If we walk correctly, if we step carefully and follow Islam, if we do not turn the people's hopes into disparity, if we do not commit misdeeds and put aside anti-Islamic acts, we shall prove our claim and you will achieve the greatest honor. [crowd chants: God is great, death to America, death to Israel] [passage omitted]

Pakistan

Prime Minister Discusses Ties With India's Rao

BK0302031892 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 3 Feb 92

[Text] The prime ministers of Pakistan and India held talks in the Swiss city of Davos for nearly an hour yesterday [2 February]. They exchanged views on all aspects of Pakistan-India relations, including Kashmir, and on peace and progress in the region. The two leaders reaffirmed their pledge to continue the efforts for peace, stability, and development in their countries, and their talks are progressing to achieve this end. Talking to newsmen later, Nawaz Sharif said: We will continue the process of dialogue to resolve all the issues.

Last year they first met in Zimbabwe and then in Sri Lanka, when they decided to settle all disputes by peaceful means. This year they will meet once again at Rio de Janeiro in June during an international conference there. The Pakistani prime minister said the two countries are carrying out economic reform, but these steps will remain futile until the political ties between Pakistan and India are improved. The prime minister said he told Narasimha Rao that no foreign investor will invest in Pakistan or India as long as tension persists in their relations.

When asked whether their talks touched on specific issues, besides the general topics, Mohammad Nawaz Sharif said the issues are already clear, and he expressed the hope that progress now will be achieved in resolving them. He said the year 1992 should be observed as one of reconciliation between Pakistan and India.

The Indian prime minister said the foreign secretaries of the two countries will meet next month, and at that time progress achieved so far in resolving the specific issues will be reviewed. In reply to a question of whether the

Kashmir issue was discussed during the talks, Narasimha Rao said Kashmir is always discussed during talks, as the issue constitutes a part of the problems and disputes between the two countries. He said: We are trying to understand each other's differences of opinion, problems, and difficulties so as to take steps for the promotion of friendship and good relations.

Officials Say No Diplomatic Ties With Israel

BK0302010692 Islamabad THE NEWS in English 2 Feb 92 pp 1, 5

[By Staff Correspondent]

[Text] Islamabad—Government officials said Saturday [1 February] Pakistan will have no diplomatic ties with Israel although its envoy in Washington has indicated that such ties were possible.

A spokesman for the Pakistan foreign office said: "There is no change in Pakistan's position towards Israel. We are not considering any proposal to establish diplomatic ties with Tel Aviv. Islamabad continues to support the Palestinians and their cause".

He was asked to comment on a statement by Pakistan's Ambassador to Washington, Syad Abida Hussain, who has indicated that Islamabad may consider improving its relations with the Jewish state.

"Today the Palestinians and the Israelis are talking and if India is choosing to mend fences with Israel and moving away from her classic support to the Palestinians, Pakistan may be in a position to do the same,"

Ms. Hussain told INDIA ABROAD, a weekly South Asian magazine published from New York. The interview was published in the Pakistani press Saturday.

India has recently said that it was going to establish full diplomatic relations with Israel. Tel Aviv already has a trade mission in Bombay.

Pakistan, being a major Muslim country, is a staunch supporter of the Palestinians and their demand for a separate homeland.

Ms. Hussain said there was no reason for Pakistan to be upset with Indian steps of friendship towards Israel.

"Why should we be afraid? We don't have an independent quarrel with Israel," she said.

Ms. Hussain, a prominent Pakistani politician, is her country's first political envoy in Washington in many years. Most before her were either career diplomats or retired military officials.

The spokesman for the foreign office, when asked to comment on her statement said: "We cannot comment on newspaper reports. We have asked our mission in Washington to send a copy of the interview and will issue a statement when we get the copy."

Recent press reports in Pakistan have claimed that Islamabad and Tel Aiv have been exchanging "communications" about forging relations.

The foreign office dismissed the report as baseless when it first appeared in the first week of January but later another report claimed that Israel has suggested a low key meeting between the two countries in neutral country to discuss bilateral relations. This report was also described as baseless and misleading by the foreign office.

"We have no communication with Israel whatsoever," said the spokesman.

Ambassador-Designate to U.S. on Israel, India

BK0202110992 Islamabad THE NEWS in English 1 Feb 92 pp 1, 11

[Excerpt] Washington: [passage omitted] Abida Hussain said that there was no reason for Pakistan to be upset with Indian steps of friendship towards Israel. "Why should we be afraid? We do not have an independent quarrel with Israel."

According to the weekly the ambassador-designate said if India seeks a permanent seat in the UN Security Council, "we would also seek to be a permanent member that goes without saying," Syeda Abida Hussain said that today Pakistan's strategic importance lies in the fact that "in the years to come, we will certainly be a part of central Asia." She added that since Pakistan shared a corridor with Afghanistan and newly independent central Asian republics, "it made it strategically even more important than before."

In this context, she criticised Senator Larry Pressler's recent attacks on Pakistan and its nuclear programme. She said that she would like to believe that Pressler does not speak for the entire system in the United States. Pressler, while visiting the sub-continent earlier in January, had expressed concern about rise of the so-called Islamic fundamentalism and expressed fears that Pakistan and some other countries might form a confederation and if these countries had nuclear weapons, this would be of concern to his countrymen and many others. Syed Abida Hussain said that "this kind of thinking is based not necessarily on knowledge. It is based on ignorance."

She said there was an emerging spirit of nationalism in Pakistan which, according to her was conducive to change in attitudes taking place so that "Islamabad is now beginning to define its interests more succinctly within the framework of our perspective."

She said that United States had expressed willingness to convene a regional conference on nuclear nonproliferation in South Asia. Pakistan's Foreign Secretary; Sheharyar Khan, is arriving in Washington on February 4 for preliminary discussions with the US officials. She said that Indian Foreign Secretary, J N Dixit, had also

been invited. According to India Abroad, the state department confirmed that Dixit has been invited. Dixit is in New York, accompanying Narasimiha Rao, who is attending a summit of Security Council member countries. She said that it was tragic that there was "such an enormous military presence in the Srinagar Valley" and alleged that new Delhi was intent on trying to impose a military solution. She observed that while disputes had to be discussed under the Simla Accord, "if we can, we do not forego the opportunity of taking up our disputes in multilateral forums."

JUP Marks U.S. 'Anti-Islam Conspiracies'

BK0202114692 Islamabad THE NEWS in English 1 Feb 92 p 11

[Text] Karachi—Jamiat Ulema-e-Pakistan (JUP) observed "Black Day" on Friday throughout Sindh against the U.S. terrorism and anti-Islam conspiracies.

Protest meetings were held in Karachi, Hyderabad, Sukkur, Tando Adam, Mirpurkhas and other parts of the interior of Sindh. The meetings were addressed by various JUP leaders including the provincial chief of the party, Allama Jameel Ahmed Naeemi.

Allama Naeemi in his address said all the Muslim nations of the world should stand against the open international terrorism of America and anti-Islam conspiracies.

He said that after the terrorism against Libya, Iraq and the patronage of India for violating human rights against the Muslims, America now wanted to break Pakistan through the ethnic organisations. In Karachi people wore black-bands and passed resolutions against America.

Allama Shabir Ahmed Azhari, while addressing a congregation at a mosque of Burns Road said if all the Muslims were united, the America also would also be dismembered like Soviet Union. Llyas Siddiqui advocate, Jamiat Ulema-e-Pakistan information secretary Sindh, said America wanted to enslave the Muslims by dividing them economically and socially.

They also condemned the America's conspiracy of removing the Islamic forces in Algeria and patronising the military government.

Meanwhile, Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam [JUI] also observed a protest day Friday against the new World Order and demanded of the government not to succumb to the pressure of anti-Islamic forces.

Various leaders of JUI delivered speeches in the Friday congregations and strongly condemned America's enmity towards Islam and Pakistan.

They said that the only order for the Muslims is the Quranic order and every bid to impose so-called New World Oder would be resisted by the Muslims of the world.

"The Ummah should stand up to resist the conspiracy against Islam and foil all the attempts of America and its agents," they said.

Meanwhile, Jamiat Tulaba-e-Islam Karachi also observed the protest day and held meetings in various parts of the city to express their anger against America.

Spokesman Denies Najibollah Requested Talks

BK0302015792 Islamabad THE NEWS in English 2 Feb 92 pp 1, 5

[Text] Islamabad—Afghan President Najibollah has so far made no formal request for direct talks between Pakistan and Afghanistan and was only issuing press statements saying he wished to do so, a spokesman for the foreign office said Saturday.

"Islamabad does not take such statements seriously", said the spokesman.

Radio Beijing had reported earlier this week that President Najibollah has sent letters to authorities in Pakistan inviting them for direct talks on ending 13 years of war in Afghanistan. According to the radio broadcast Najib proposed the talks to be held in Pakistan, Afghanistan or a third country.

Asked about the letters, a government spokesman in Islamabad said: "This is not a serious move for talks. He sent a letter for the Chief of the Army Staff General Asif Nawaz through a retired Major of the Pakistan Army who recently visited Kabul. Najib has an embassy in Islamabad and we have an embassy in Kabul. If he had a serious proposal, he could have conveyed it through the mission".

"But even if there had been a serious proposal, we would have avoided direct talks at this stage. There are more serious talks going on at the international level. We should wait for their results. We also believe talks on the Afghan issue should be among the Afghans," he added.

The United States and Pakistan were the main allies of the Mojahedin guerillas fighting against Najib when Moscow backed and installed the regime in Kabul.

From January 1 this year Washington and Moscow stopped arms supplies to Afghanistan and earlier this week Pakistan also decided to do so following a major shift in Islamabad's Afghan policy.

On Monday Pakistan announced that it was going to help the United Nations convene an assembly of all the warring factions in Afghanistan to form an interim government in Kabul which would be asked to hold general elections in the war-torn country.

The decision ended 13 years of backing by Islamabad to the guerrillas wanting a military victory against Kabul.

Hardline guerilla groups condemned the decision and accused Islamabad of "giving in under western pressure".

"Our friends in Islamabad have come out with the idea of convening this so-called peace assembly under pressure from Washington and other western powers. But they will soon realise their mistake," said Abdul Rab Rasool Sayyaf, a hardline Mojahedin leader still favouring the military option.

The United Nations last year proposed a peace package for Afghanistan calling for five plans of action, including an immediate cease-fire, talks between the warring factions, the establishment of an interim government in Kabul and elections under the interim government.

Pakistan welcomed the UN proposal initially, but showed no enthusiasm to implement it until last Monday.

Benon Sevan, special envoy of the U.N. Secretary General on Afghanistan, has already arrived in Islamabad for talks aimed at convening the Assembly.

Nawaz Sharif Addresses World Economic Forum

BK0202170892 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1600 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, has given a five-point call for peace; a new, just international order; and bridging the gap between the rich and the poor. Addressing the World Economic Forum on the concluding day in the Swiss city of Davos today, he also projected economic reforms initiated by his government with a view to attracting international investors and businessmen to participate in Pakistan's development. The prime minister said the measures he was suggesting on a global scale are a prerequisite to ensure peace in the world and to alleviate dismal conditions of the poor masses. His statement was cheered by the participants who included 15 heads of government and state, dozens of economic ministers, and hundreds of leading investors, businessmen, and economists attending the meet. Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif said despite the impact of the Gulf crisis and reduction in external assistance, his government has implemented comprehensive economic, financial, and industrial reforms. The basic thrust of these reforms is privatization, deregulation, and unleashing the full potential of the private sector to accelerate economic growth. The prime minister said foreign investment has been completely deregulated and provided legal cover while government's economic reforms ensure that Pakistan's economy is closely integrated with the world economy and more responsive to the challenges of today's world. Referring to the new international order, he said there must be a commitment to uphold the principles of the United Nations charter faithfully and help to provide for settlement of regional disputes peacefully and by negotiations.

Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif also called for progressive elimination of all weapons of mass destruction and said the concept of regional nonproliferation must be seriously pursued in South Asia. He referred to the historic linkages with the Central Asian Republics and said three of them are expected to join this month with Economic Cooperation Organization [ECO] which is striving for development and cooperation among Pakistan, Iran, and Turkey.

The prime minister said his vision of ECO at the turn of the century is of a network of highways and railways not only linking the region but also connecting it with Europe, Russia, China, the Middle East, and South Asia of thriving trade operating through excellent communication links, modern thoughts, and people-to-people exchanges.

He also stressed the need for a peaceful resolution of the Afghanistan problem as that Afghanistan provides the gateway for effective cooperation with Central Asia. He said Pakistan supports the United Nation's plan of action as it is high time that urgent and decisive steps are taken for a just peace based on a broad Afghan consensus.

The prime minister, Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, was assured by the Turkish and Swiss leaders of their support to Pakistan's nuclear nonproliferation policy and for settlement of Kashmir and Afghan issues. The assurances were given when the Turkish prime minister, Mr. Suleyman Demirel, and the Swiss President, Mr. Rene Felber, [title as heard] met the prime minister separately in Davos today. The Turkish prime minister appreciated economic reforms initiated by Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif. The two prime ministers also exchanged views about the summit meeting of the Economic Cooperation Organization due to be held in Tehran from the 16th of this month. They shared the view that independence of Central Asian Republics has opened up new opportunities of increased cooperation between these republics and Pakistan, Turkey and Iran.

Kashmiri Parties Plan Cease-Fire Line Crossing

BK0102163092 Hong Kong AFP in English 1546 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Text] Islamabad, Feb 1 (AFP)—At least 17 Kashmiri political parties expressed support for a militant group's plan to cross the ceasefire line dividing the northern state between India and Pakistan, a JKLF spokesman Saturday said.

The Jammu-Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF), which claims links with militants waging a two-year-old separatist campaign in the Indian-controlled Kashmir, in January vowed its members would dismantle the line to highlight the Moslem cause.

The parties reached "consensus" on the issue in a meeting here as no genuine Kashmiri has ever accepted the line, delineating the state's division since 1948, the JKLF spokesman said. He said the participants at the meeting called it "a right decision in the right direction which must be upheld at all costs."

The JKLF has fixed February 11 for crossing the border. The date coincides the eighth anniversary of the death of the freedom movement's founder Maqbool Butt, who was hanged in New Delhi in 1984 for alleged treason.

An undisclosed number of activists plan to cross the line at the Chakoti post, in defiance of an official ban on such an action.

India and Pakistan have fought two of their three wars over Kashmir, and troops guarding on the border still clash, resulting in casualties on both sides.

In a surprise move, the state's ruling Muslim Conference, along with former premier Benazir Bhutto's People's Party of Azad Kashmir, Saturday backed the decision in principle, sources said.

Pakistan's Government has not yet commented on the plan, but analysts said it could embarrass Islamabad.

The Pakistan Government vows continued "moral and political" support for the Kashmiri struggle for self-determination, but the JKLF's call for independence is contrary to Islamabad's official stance that the state should choose between Pakistan and India through a U.N.-mandated plebiscite, they said.

It is unclear also whether the vast majority of Pakistan-based parties—including the Muslim Conference which wants Kashmir's accession to Pakistan—will accept the JKLF umbrella for the march.

The parties have supported the move because rejecting it could damage their following among the Kashmiri population, which overwhelmingly wants to see the end of the status quo, analysts said.

The Kashmir wing of Bhutto's party hesitated to give its full backing, saying a decision on sending people to join the JKLF activists would be conveyed after consulting the party high command. Bhutto has opposed proposals for an independent Kashmir.

The Kashmir issue remains the main cause of discord between the neighbouring countries. An upsurge in militancy has brought them to the verge of conflict twice in past two years.

New Delhi accuses Pakistan of fuelling the Moslem insurgency, in which more than 4,000 people have died. Islamabad denies the charge.

The JKLF chief said an Indian claim that Pakistan was behind the plan to cross the border was "devilish mischief."

Diplomatic Ties With Kazakhstan Established

BK0202090592 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] Pakistan and Kazakhstan have decided to establish diplomatic ties with immediate effect. This decision was made at the meeting between Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and President Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan at the Swiss city of Davos yesterday [1 February]. They agreed to sign five agreements to promote commercial, economic, cultural, and technical cooperation between the two countries.

Speaking to newsmen later, Nawaz Sharif said he held extremely meaningful talks with the Kazakh president. Historic cultural and religious ties exist between the two countries and it is hoped that these friendly and close ties will be further strengthened and stabilized after Nazerbayev's visit to Pakistan beginning 25 February. The prime minister said a formal agreement will be signed for establishing ties at the diplomatic level.

After the talks, the team accompanying Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and the members of the Kazakh delegation held a meeting to work out details concerning Nazarbayev's proposed visit to Pakistan. The Pakistani team was composed of Finance Minister Sartaj Aziz; Commerce Minister Malik Mohammad Naim; Industries Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmad; Mohammad Siddique Khan Kanjoo, minister of state for foreign affairs; and Foreign Secretary Shaharyar Khan. The Kazakh delegation was led by Suleymenov, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Speaking to newsman later, Malik Mohammad Naim said a Pakistani experts mission will visit Kazakhstan to give final shape to the five accords, which will be signed by the two countries during Nazarbayev's visit to Pakistan. The Pakistani offer to provide university education to Kazakh students was readily accepted.

Minister Reaffirms Support for Palestinians

BK0202155892 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] Prime Minister's Special Assistant Chaudhary Nissar Ali Khan has said in Islamabad today that Pakistan believes in the unshaken stability of the Muslims and it is more determined than ever to stand by its Arab brethren and desires that the harassament and reign of terror let loose by Israel be brought to an end as soon as possible. Commenting on the reported statement of the Pakistani ambassador to the United States on the recent moves between India and Israel to review the status of their relations, the special assistant to the prime minister said Pakistan's steadfast support to the Arab and Islamic cause, including the struggle of the Palestinian people, will continue to be the cornerstone of our foreign policy.

Radio Criticizes 'Recalcitrance' on Nuclear Issue

BK0202122292 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1600 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Commentary by Mohammad Yamin]

[Text] The Indian prime minister, Narasimha Rao, is reported to have turned down a request from the U.S. president, George Bush, to join and cooperate in the

five-nation talks on nuclear nonproliferation in South Asia as proposed by the Pakistani prime minister, Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, in June last year. The proposal was noted by President Bush during his meeting the other day with the Indian leader in New York, where both the leaders had gone for the United Nations Security Council summit meeting. Referring to the dangers of nuclear proliferation following the breakup of the Soviet Union, the U.S. president asked the Indian premier to agree to the proposed conference between the United States, Russia, China, India, and Pakistan for making South Asia free of nuclear weapons and (?advised) him that the nuclear issue must be taken seriously. However, Mr. Narasimha Rao did not agree to take part in the proposed deliberations on the ground that the nuclear nonproliferation was a global problem and could not be discussed in the regional context.

The Indian leader's negative response to the Pakistan-sponsored proposal, which has been accepted not only by all other invitees to the conference but has also received overwhelming support from the members of the United Nations, must be viewed with dismay by the peace-loving nations of the world, including Pakistan, which sincerely regard nuclear weapons and their proliferation as a serious threat not only to the world peace but also to the very existence of the human race. Mr. Rao's rejection of President Bush's demarche also provides added proof of the Indian intransigence over the issue. Having acquired its own nuclear-weapon capability long ago, India has consistently frustrated all bilateral and international overtures to become a signatory to the nonproliferation treaty or at least to go along with measures designed to keep South Asia free of nuclear weapons. If, for the sake of argument, the Indian plea that nuclear proliferation is a global issue is upheld—and one may not really see anything radically wrong with that line of argument—then where indeed is the harm if at least certain zones of the world, such as the Indian Ocean and South Asia, can be kept free of nuclear weapons? In fact, a beginning of this sort has already been made in different regions and South Asia would only follow a precedent. Also, if India has certain reservations to the signing of the international nonproliferation treaty, what valid objections could possibly be there to entering into a bilateral accord with Pakistan for mutually-agreed international safeguard to ensure that the nuclear programs of the two countries have not or do not attain weapon-grade quality?

Pakistan's reasonable attitude toward the issue and its track record of peaceful intentions are as evident as is the Indian arrogance and refusal to entertain any useful and workable suggestion. In fact, there is no need to draw any comparison. Besides, stalling the Bush proposals, the Indians also worked hard to exclude reference to the nonproliferation treaty from the recommendations of the UN Security Council summit held yesterday in New York. That the Indian effort failed does not seem to deter India. It is also borne out by the observations made by Ronald Lehman, head of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, who was on a visit to India recently to hold talks with the Indian leaders on nuclear nonproliferation. Addressing a press conference in New Delhi, Mr. Lehman said that the lack of any nuclear arms control agreement in South Asia made it one of the world's volatile and tensest regions, and commented that India continued to have reservations about regional nuclear safeguards agreement. The question is whether India should be allowed to get away with its recalcitrance over the nuclear issue or the world should get together and exert all kinds of pressure on it to accept the world opinion. Obviously, leading world powers have a role to play in this regard. One may wait and see how they respond to the challenge.

Japanese Delegation To Discuss Investment

OW3001164692 Tokyo KYODO in English 1256 GMT 30 Jan 92

[Text] Islamabad, Jan. 30 (KYODO)—A 52-member Japanese economic mission will arrive Friday for weeklong discussions with Pakistani businessmen and officials on bilateral economic matters and measures to facilitate the flow of Japanese investment to Pakistan, Pakistani officials said Thursday.

The visit, the fifth such economic mission from Japan since 1967, is taking place in response to a request by Pakistan during former Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's visit in May 1990 to help the country attract increased yen investment.

Finance Minister Sartaj Aziz said last week Pakistan has attached great importance to economic relations with Japan, which is its biggest trade partner and aid donor.

Total Japanese aid to Pakistan stands at 4.6 billion dollars, imports from Japan at nearly 1 billion dollars and exports at 490 million dollars. But private investment from Japan was a paltry 83 million dollars.

Previous Japanese missions have identified the law and order situation, lack of infrastructure and high income tax rates as bottlenecks to foreign investment.

Undeterred by the Japanese analysis, Sartaj Aziz visited Japan for a week in mid-January, inviting Japanese investors to develop an industrial complex similar to one being developed by South Korean firm Daewoo for Korean investors.

Japanese investors are being offered sites along the proposed 350-kilometer motorway linking Islamabad and Lahore.

Pakistani officials have said the cancellation of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's visit to Japan last year, at the last minute due to internal reasons, greatly strained relations between the two countries.

The officials said the prime minister hopes to repair the damage during his rescheduled visit expected in mid-1992.

Sri Lanka

LTTE Reportedly Introduces Hostage System

BK0102095292 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0830 GMT 1 Feb 92

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Feb 1 (LANKAPUVATH)—The LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] is reported to have increased its repression in Jaffna through the introduction of a hostage system. A news despatch from Jaffna received by LANKAPUVATH states that Jaffna residents are now allowed to leave the peninsula only after fellow citizens stood surety for them. If they do not return, their sureties face death. The despatch states the LTTE is now very unpopular with the people of Jaffna and that included the farmers. The terrorists were militarily weak and more unpopular than ever before, but the LTTE organisational network in the peninsula continued to be in place and used to keep the people in a permanent state of fear and repression. The consensus of opinion in Jaffna is that the LTTE's days are numbered. The terrorist leaders know that the LTTE will lose hands down if there is a free and fair election. Hence, they do not want the other Tamil political parties and groups in any negotiating process, states the despatch.

Meanwhile, forced conscription by the LTTE is continuing in Jaffna. The despatch from Jaffna further states that 90 per cent of the people of Jaffna say, "We do not want the LTTE. We do not want Eelam [Tamil state]. We want to live in peace with the rest of our brethren in Sri Lanka". These views are also expressed in writings on walls in Jaffna.

LTTE Reportedly Sustains Heavy Casualties

BK0302111592 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 3 Feb 92

[Text] The LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] is reported to have suffered heavy casualties, while seven soldiers were killed and two wounded in fighting in the north and east. The Joint Operations Command told LANKAPUVATH the security forces located and destroyed a LTTE base at (Pittambur) in Batticaloa District. Government troops inflicted heavy casualties on the terrorists and captured the terrorist's base.

At Vankalai in Mannar District, a security forces patrol from the army camp confronted a large group of terrorists. In the ensuing battle, LTTE casualties were reported to be heavy. Seven soldiers were killed and two wounded in the fighting. The terrorists were seen fleeing, carrying their dead and wounded.